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ISSUE 001

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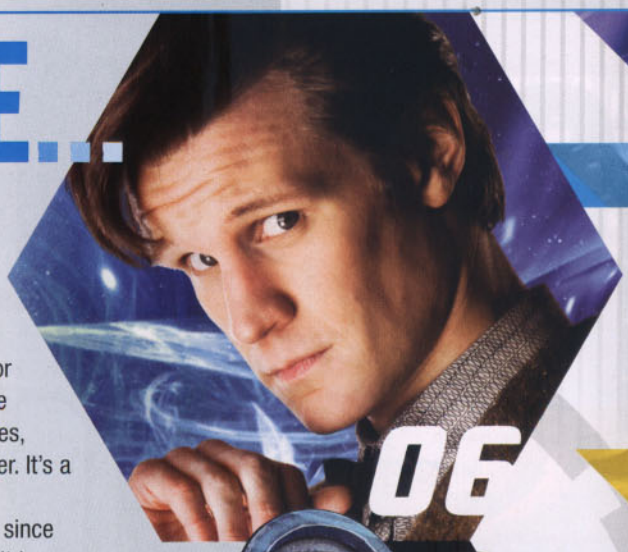
WELCOME...



What could be more British than *Doctor Who*? Yet here you are, holding in your hands the first issue of *Doctor Who Insider*, British made but published in North America. This is surely a testament to the far reaching appeal of this unique TV drama that has enthralled and inspired viewers for nearly fifty years. The Doctor and his companions are our guides through an amazing universe of adventures, taking us from one end of space and time to the other. It's a rollercoaster ride like no other.

Doctor Who is no newcomer to America. However, since its debut on BBC America (and on Space in Canada) it is now being watched by more people than ever before with new viewers discovering the series all the time.

Within the pages of this and future issues you'll find that we touch on every era of *Doctor Who,* from the latest travels of the Eleventh Doctor, in the guise of Matt Smith, right back through all his previous ten incarnations and 48 years of history.

As well as interviews with the stars and behind-the-scenes features, we'll be taking a look at the Doctor's adventures in books, audio, comics and on DVD.

You'll also find several pages devoted to you the reader and we invite you to send in your photographs and letters which we'd be delighted to receive and publish in future issues. Email us at **dwi@panini.co.uk**. We'd love to hear from you!

Whether you're an old friend of the Doctor's or have only just made his acquaintance, there is something for you in the pages of *Doctor Who Insider*.

John

DWI NEWS...
Geronimo! 04

FEATURES...
Matt Smith 06
Michael Pickwoad 14
Audio Adventures 18
Jacqueline Pearce 42

NEXUS POINT...
Pyramids of Mars 12

DATA FILE...
A Christmas Carol 22

TIME SCOOP...
The Sontarans 24

MERCHANDISE...
DVD 28
Audio 32
Books 34
Store 36

FAN ZONE...
Scanner Screen 38
The Recreation Generator 40

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GERONIMO!

A round-up of the latest news in the Doctor's universe

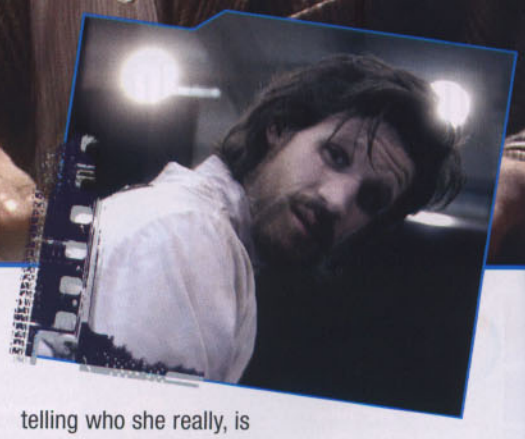
THE ELEVENTH DOCTOR RETURNS

The premiere of the new series of *Doctor Who* is only weeks away. As with the Christmas Day broadcast of the *Doctor Who* special, *A Christmas Carol*, BBC America is planning to show the new episodes on the same day as they are screened in the UK.

This year, the 13-episode season will be split into two halves. Episode seven will bring the first half to a nail-biting climax. The series will then return for a further six episodes in the fall.

"Viewers will be treated to two premieres, two finales and more event episodes," executive producer Steven Moffat has promised, adding that we should expect a "game-changing cliffhanger," at the half-way point.

Let's take a look at what we know about the first half of the season:



EPISODES 1 & 2

Written by: Steven Moffat | Directed by: Toby Haynes

The series opens with a two-part story set in 1960s America and featuring some spectacular location filming in Utah. This is the first time that *Doctor Who* has done any major filming in the USA.

Matt Smith returns as the Eleventh Doctor and is joined by the recently-married Rory and Amy Pond, played by Arthur Darvill and Karen Gillan. They are also joined in this adventure by Alex Kingston once again playing the mysterious River Song, whose own personal timeline is running in the opposite direction to the Doctor's. So, she knows spoilers about the Time Lord's future, but she's not letting on. She's also not telling who she really, is nor how she knows the Doctor – but this is the year that all will finally be revealed… or so Steven Moffat has promised.

Amongst the guest-cast for this opening story are Mark Sheppard (*Firefly*, *Battlestar Galactica*, *Supernatural*) and Stuart Milligan (*Doctor Who: Dreamland*, *Jonathan Creek*). "Silence will fall" was the often heard phrase in last year's *Doctor Who* episodes and in this incredible season opener, we get to find just who and what 'The Silence' is.

EPISODE 3

Written by: Steve Thompson | Directed by: Jeremy Webb

Filmed in the historic Charlestown Shipwreck and Heritage Centre in St. Austell, Cornwall, the setting provides an exciting backdrop for the swashbuckling *Doctor Who* writing début of *Sherlock*'s Steve Thompson.

Shivering his timbers as the Pirate Captain is Hugh Bonneville (*Downton Abbey*, *Lost in Austen*). He is joined by Lee Ross (*Life on Mars*, *Press Gang*) and supermodel Lily Cole (*The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*).

EPISODE 4

Written by: Neil Gaiman | Directed by: Richard Clark

Penned by Neil Gaiman, the acclaimed author of *The Sandman* comic series, this episode has been much anticipated.

Gaiman has said of the character of Idris, played by Suranne Jones (*Coronation Street*, *The Sarah Jane Adventures: Mona Lisa's Revenge*) who appears in the story that she "just might turn out to be an old acquaintance with a new face." Playing 'Auntie' and 'Uncle' are Elizabeth Berrington (*Waterloo Road*, *Psychoville*) and Adrian Schiller (*Being Human*, *Zen*).

EPISODE 5 & 6

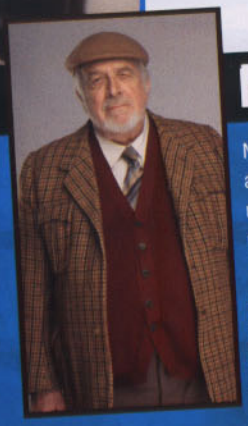
Written by: Matthew Graham | Directed by: Julian Simpson

Life on Mars and *Ashes to Ashes* creator Matthew Graham returns to *Doctor Who* with this two-part story. Matthew previously wrote the Tenth Doctor story *Fear Her* for the 2006 season. Matt Smith will be reunited with Raquel Cassidy who played his boss in *Party Animals*. Also amongst the cast are Marshall Lancaster (*Life on Mars*, *Ashes to Ashes*) as Buzzer, Mark Bonnar (*Paradox*) and Sarah Smart (*At Home with the Braithwaites*, *Wallander*) as Jessica Lucas. Child actor Edmond Moulton plays Adam.

In this, the last episode of the first half of the season, returning characters include Alex Kingston as River Song, and Simon Fisher-Becker as Dorium Maldavar from *The Pandorica Opens*. Danny Sapani (*Misfits*) plays Colonel Manton, while comedians Charlie Baker and Dan Johnston star as 'Fat Man' and 'Thin Man'. Also appearing are Frances Barber (*Funland*, *Red Dwarf*) as Kovarian, Christina Chong as Lorna Bucket and newcomer Joshua Hays as Lucas.

EPISODE 7

Written by: Steven Moffat | Directed by: Peter Hoar



NICHOLAS COURTNEY 1929 – 2011

Nicholas Courtney, the actor best known for his role as the Brigadier, has passed away.

Nicholas Courtney held a very special place in the history of *Doctor Who* and the hearts of the show's fans. He first appeared in the series in 1965 as the character Bret Vyon in *The Daleks' Master Plan* where he played opposite William Hartnell, the First Doctor. However, it was in the role of Alistair Lethbridge-Stewart that he would earn his place in *Doctor Who* history. The character was introduced as an army colonel in the 1968 adventure *The Web of Fear* which starred Patrick Troughton as the Second Doctor. He would be back a short time later in the 1968 story *The Invasion*, this time promoted to brigadier.

The Invasion was to serve as the prototype for a new style of *Doctor Who* story, introduced at the same time as Jon Pertwee took on the role as the Doctor's third incarnation. The Doctor was now exiled to Earth and would share many of his adventures with the Brigadier and his special military organization, UNIT.

Nicholas Courtney made regular appearances as the rather conservative, but kind-hearted and dependable, Brigadier Lethbridge-Stewart over the next five years of the programme. After his second appearance with the Fourth Doctor, played by Tom Baker, the Brigadier disappeared from the show. The format had changed and no longer required the regular presence of the Brigadier and UNIT.

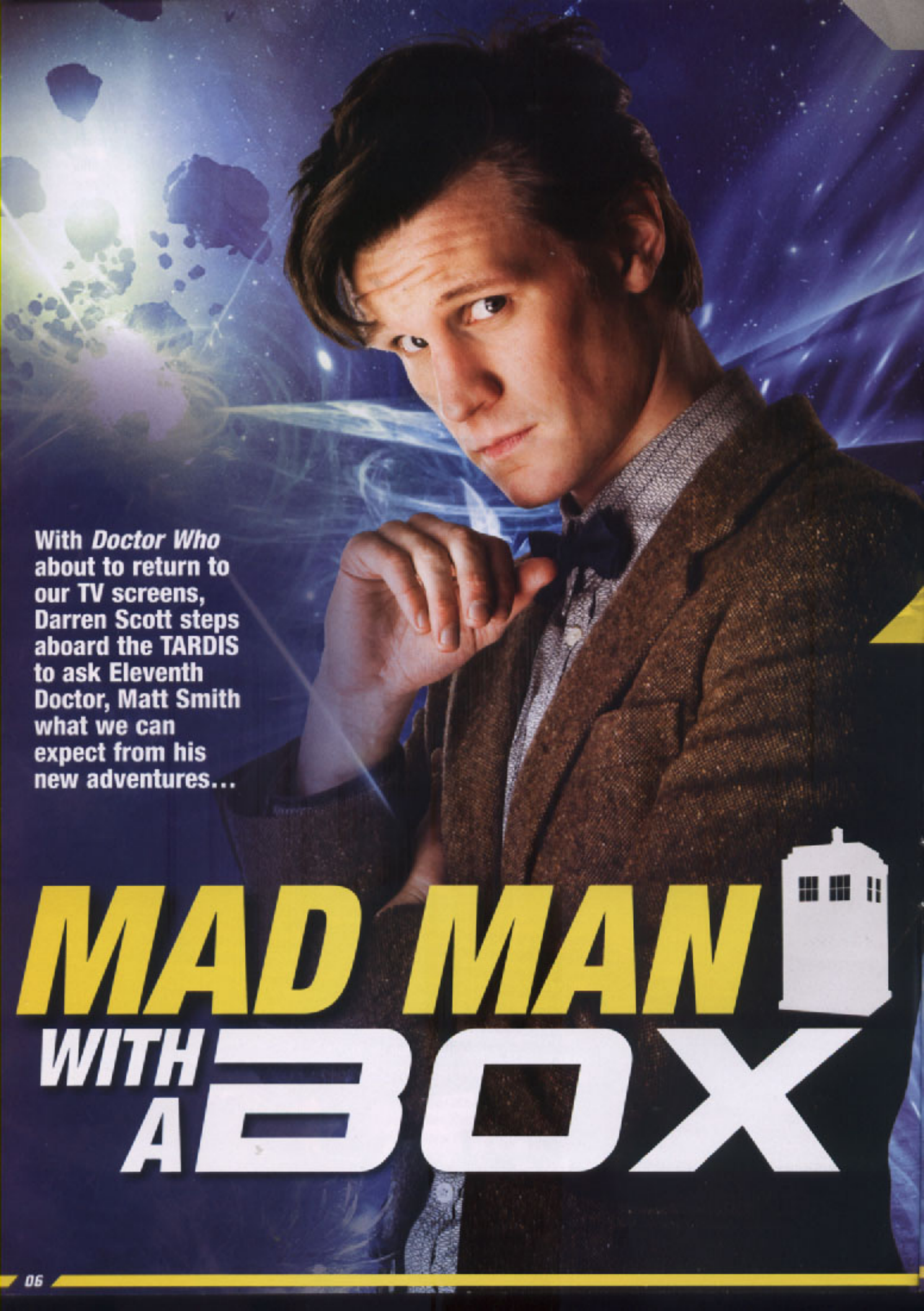
Happily though, Nicholas was to return to the series, and the part that he had made his own, in 1983's *Mawdryn Undead* in which he was teamed with the Fifth Doctor, Peter Davison. A further guest-appearance in the celebratory *The Five Doctors* was to follow shortly after.

An encounter with Sylvester McCoy's Seventh Doctor in 1989's *Battlefield* was to mark the Brigadier's final appearance in *Doctor Who*, although he would appear in *Dimensions in Time* in 1993, a special short adventure produced for the BBC's annual charity telethon, *Children in Need*.

Sadly, Nicholas Courtney was not to appear opposite the Ninth and Tenth Doctors but he did make one final TV appearance as the Brigadier in 2008's *The Enemy of the Bane*, two episodes of the *Doctor Who* spin-off series, *The Sarah Jane Adventures*.

It was a source of great pride to Nicholas Courtney that he had worked with nine of the 11 actors to have played the Doctor on television – featuring in audio dramas with both Eighth Doctor Paul McGann and Tenth Doctor David Tennant.

Nicholas Courtney died February 22, 2011 aged 81. He will be forever remembered as one of the best-loved characters in *Doctor Who* and will be sorely missed by his fans and his friends.



With *Doctor Who* about to return to our TV screens, Darren Scott steps aboard the TARDIS to ask Eleventh Doctor, Matt Smith what we can expect from his new adventures...

MAD MAN WITH A BOX

> *"Well, I think that* **Doctor Who** *is, and always has been, scary and it should be like that. It really should be..."*

No one is safe...

Don't say you haven't thought about it too. Being in the TARDIS, with the Doctor, all of time and space at your fingertips.

It's February 2011 and I am indeed inside the most famous time machine in television history with the good Doctor himself – the very British Matt Smith.

Being a fully-fledged *Doctor Who* insider, I've been behind the scenes and chatted to Matt on numerous occasions. But I suddenly realize this is the first time I've been in the actual TARDIS, with the actual Doctor when he's in his actual costume. Proof, if proof were ever needed, that *Doctor Who* never stops being exciting.

And what's more exciting than being in the TARDIS, with Matt Smith dressed as the Doctor? Why, getting the insider scoop on his second year in the iconic role of course.

Nothing – and no one – is safe this season. Some friendly faces are back – Karen Gillan as Amy Pond, Arthur Darvill as Rory Williams and Alex Kingston as River Song – and some less than friendly faces return yet again (but sorry, no spoilers there!)

Matt's perched on one of the two chairs next to the central controls of the time machine – I don't ask if they'll be dragging an extra one in for Rory this season – and I'm concerned. He's a busy man, constantly in demand for various *Who* related projects, interviews, recordings and so forth. I've dragged him away from filming (of episode three, fact fans)... When does he even find time to eat?

"I had lunch on the way," he beams, shooing away my worrying. "The readthrough started late and I thought 'it's going to be one of those days now isn't it...'"

Now, I mentioned that *Insider* – as the name suggests – has been known to have a gossip with the current TARDIS trio on previous occasions. As a result, I've picked up Matt's habit of calling episodes 'eps', in much the same way as picking up previous

> *"Steven is trying to get as much as possible into the first 20 pages of the scripts, which is exciting, you know?"*

executive producer Russell T Davies' way of saying 'absolutely'. Go and check out on an episode of *Doctor Who Confidential*, you'll see what I mean... So naturally I enquire as to what 'ep' they've been doing the readthrough for today.

"Ep ten," Matt replies and I mentally scan my brain to recall the details of Tom MacRae's script, "but Arthur was coming down from Edinburgh so we were a good 50 minutes late starting."

Yes, I realize, Arthur is pretty essential to ep ten. But then the Ponds, as the Doctor's prone to calling his newly wed companions, are both pretty essential this year. The TARDIS is in for a bumpier ride than usual and the Doctor's going to need his friends around him more than ever before...

Something so awful, so unimaginable – frankly so impossible – happens in the first episode that you simply wouldn't want to read about it in a magazine. Well, that and those darn spoilers really. But how, I ask, can the time travelers recover from such an event so early on...

"That's what's sort of wonderful, I think, about Steven [Moffat, *Doctor Who*'s head writer]. What he's done is, he says he's going to – well he's trying to get as much as possible into the first 20 pages of the scripts, which is exciting, you know? Totally exciting! Because so much happens in 20 pages you think 'this can't be happening' but

lo and behold it is. But how do you get back? I mean, I've yet to find out... I haven't read [episodes] eight or 13 yet..."

This will all make sense in mere weeks. But for now, all I'm getting from Matt is the knowing look. The smile. The raise of an eyebrow. He knows that we know that he knows. But we can't let you know. At least not yet. Spoilers! Sometimes being an insider is hard work.

Really scary

The talk among *Who* people (they're becoming a race all of their own, you know...) is that eps (still talking his language) one, two and seven – which open and close the first run of episodes this year with the remaining episodes being shown in the Fall – are the 'best things Steven Moffat's ever written'. Discuss.

"I think they could well be," Matt agrees. "I mean I think *A Christmas Carol* was particularly extraordinary as well but one and two are just..." he thinks for a second and then stresses the fact. "You know, they are out of this world. His mind is truly sensational and so inventive and so unique. Particularly with this series, it seems to play into his hands in many ways. It just feels like a privilege to work with Steven Moffat, I have to say."

That mind, the one that gave us the Weeping Angels and saw Rory live for thousands of years as an Auton, is responsible for The Silence – a race Matt says he thinks "could be the greatest *Who* monster in a long time." My eyes widen. That's not a statement to make lightly after all. But I've also heard that they're the scariest monsters ever.

"You know, I really think they could be."

Blimey. What is it that he thinks is so good about this mysterious new race?

"It's just the invention of it, and the way it's been realized. These things are always the sum of their parts aren't they and on this one everything... And the guy that got to play it..." he keeps drifting off; such is his excitement for them. "It's just perfect. It's sort of all come together quite well. And I think it's a very clever Steven Moffat idea where it could only come from his mind.

"I saw [episodes] one and two and I watched it with a group of adults who were like 'That is some serious...' you know," he catches himself with a chuckle. "'That's really, really scary'. Honestly man, they are. They're really scary."

Have the scares been ramped then?

"Yeah, yeah," he nods. "Well I think that *Doctor Who* is, and always has been, scary and it should be like that. It really should be like that and I think that this series is no different." He pauses and laughs. "The Silence are scary man, they really are. Especially if you're six!"

That's it. I'm officially excited now. I want to be scared. And I kind of want to be six so I can be even more scared.

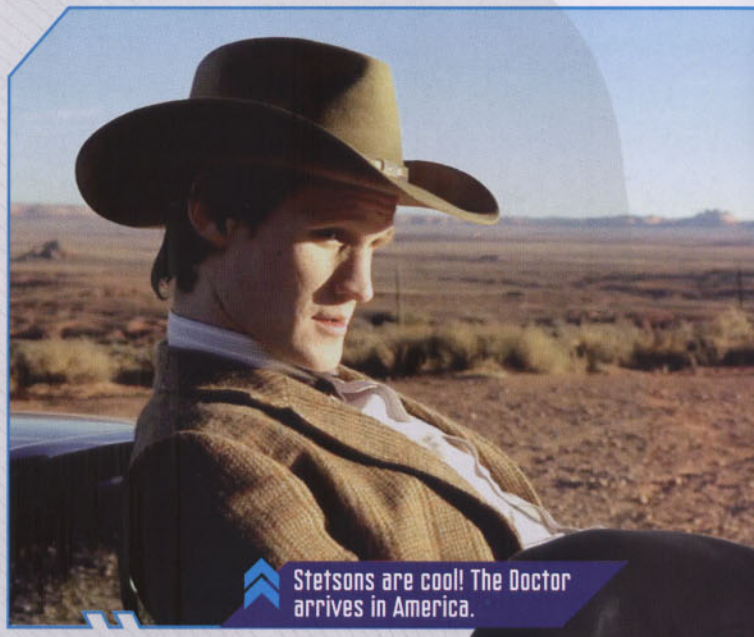
"I think you'll really like them, Darren. I think you really will..." Well if there's ever a man whose word I'm going to take it's going to be the Doctor... But The Silence aren't the only exciting thing about the first two episodes. You've seen the specially filmed trailers on BBC America – the three travelers (and River) in Monument Valley in Utah, where the cast and crew flew to last November for a particularly momentous moment in *Doctor Who* history...

It's the first time the series has properly filmed in America – location shots were undertaken for series three's *Daleks In Manhattan/Evolution of the Daleks*, but the actors never recorded there, and the Los Angeles set 1996 TV movie starring Paul McGann as the Eighth Doctor was filmed entirely in Vancouver. How did Matt feel about his first American *Doctor Who* filming experience?

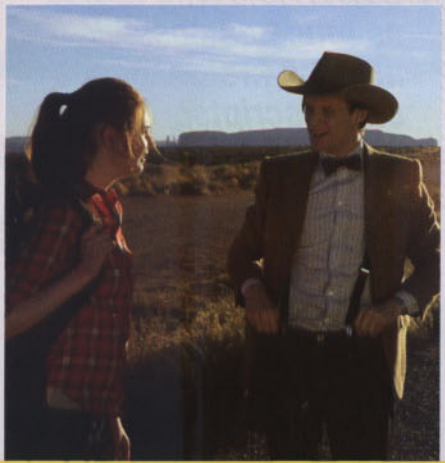
"Brilliant actually, I think it really adds something. That's what's good I think about this year, is that it has real ambition and I think the scope of the episodes..." He thinks for a moment. "You know, he's written films, basically, Steven. Big sprawling films for TV in that wonderful *Doctor Who* way that it is very televisual. They feel grand and epic, the locations feel like that and the stories feel grand and sweeping and epic as well.

> ***"It's great for a show like ours to have an American landscape and location in it."***

But it was great fun. It was cold and then hot and then cold – Utah's quite mad. It was a great adventure for me and Arthur and Karen but it was tiring because we came back and had to go straight into another block [of filming]. Literally landed on the Friday, started shooting on the Monday. With the jetlag it was tough. But it's great for a show like ours to have an American landscape and location in it."



Stetsons are cool! The Doctor arrives in America.



Hang on a second. I've been on some of those cold British locations – I had visions of Matt, Karen, Arthur and Alex all basking in the heat of the desert in-between takes!

"No!" Matt laughs. "Do you know what, it wasn't much warmer at all. It was freezing! You'd think there'd be some sense of a bit of glamour, but sadly not. I mean, it was hard work. It was a wonderful treat though, being in such brilliant vast dramatic locations and I think that all bleeds into the show really positively and gives it a very epic and grand

feel. It was great fun. It was like a road trip, but a *Doctor Who* one."

And you can see that epic and grand feel in those aforementioned trailers. Like Matt says, it looks cinematic.

"Yeah, it really does. And that's what I'm proud of because I think it's lifted *Doctor Who* into a really cinematic zone and one that I'm really proud of. That's basically what one and two are, he's written a movie. As soon as you cut to that first shot of Utah you go 'whoa!' He has great scale and ambition and that's what I like about his writing. There's nothing safe about it – it's dangerous and brilliant."

The show may have left its homeland, but one UK filming tradition still took place in Utah. Despite being all that way out, and not even being in the country, the fans still managed to track them down...

"Yeah, it was really mad to believe!" he beams. "Goodness knows how they found us all that way in the middle of the desert, I have no clue, but they did. It's really gathering a pace out there."

Gathering a pace would be something of an understatement – *Doctor Who* is the biggest show on BBC America. But Matt's ever so humble about it.

"They're very into sci-fi, aren't they, in the States? They're very into the show. But they're actually no different to the fans over here really."

Still, this should come as little surprise, given the excited frenzy Matt and Karen – and in his own way Mr Moffat – received when they flew to America to launch series five last year. Some people even likened it to sixties Beatlemania.

"Yes, that's kind of bizarre isn't it?" Matt says, giving a huge grin. "Because you certainly don't expect it. But it was wonderful because there most certainly was a real sense of *Doctor Who* having a presence out there, which is really exciting."

And with such interest comes the inevitable media interest and chat show appearances – something Matt's discovered is somewhat different to what he's used to in the UK.

"I really liked it actually because they just tend to ask you about the show. The journalism [in America] is really sort of drama driven and narrative driven and acting driven and it's not as personal."

> ***"Steven has great scale and ambition and that's what I like about his writing. There's nothing safe about it..."***

Is that very British?

"Yeah. Well maybe, I don't know. That was quite refreshing and I enjoyed it for those reasons. And I love [chat show host] Craig Ferguson; I think he's brilliant. He's wonderful, but then Graham Norton's wonderful over here. "

I have to ask. Are there still fans in America wearing that scarf?

Matt grins. "Yeah. I think Tom Baker [the scarf wearing Fourth Doctor] lives on."

"He'll be glad to hear that," I reply, before returning to the new season – we can't talk plots, so a different tactic then. How is series six going to top series five?

"Well, you know, it's going to be different but better," he laughs. "But I say that with all honesty. I think we've really discovered how we make it; I think Steven has just come up trumps again. We've got great writers – like this episode [episode three] it's brilliant. It's a real belter. A great one and two, great opener. I think there's more at stake really now, as the trio move forward."

Will we be seeing a different side to the Doctor this season?

"I think – it's difficult because I don't want to give too much away – I think that the Doctor is faced, this season, with a set of choices that are..." he pauses, thinks and deliberates... "sort of impossible for him to sit on the fence about. He's got to go one way or the other and it's quite a defining thing that he has to choose, umm, about. I think it takes the Doctor somewhere, which perhaps makes him vulnerable. But he's still the same Doctor, he's still the mad bonkers professor travelling around the universe..."

And presumably Matt personally feels more at home now too?

The unknown

"Even just knowing this space now," he says, gesturing around the TARDIS, "like the back of my hand is a nice thing. This was all very new to me. And Wales, travelling into work. I know all the curves of my journey in my sleep; I can do it with my eyes closed and tell you where we are. And I think that me and Karen and Arthur are great friends, it's lovely, we have a right laugh. I think some actors come in and think 'those three are pretty mental...' But because we're on our own up here quite a lot we've kind of developed our own weird language and humor. Hopefully that's all infused in the energy of the show and the characters."

And has there been anything so far that's taken the character of the Doctor to the limit?

"I don't know what happens in the finale yet, I'm really intrigued to know. I had to make a call about what happens to the Doctor in what will now be episode four and, you know, you go 'OK if I make that choice that's very particular...' just with the Doctor being affected by something quite strongly, but I did and I went for it. It's been great. Fingers crossed we've got a great series this season, the scripts are strong."

Those strong scripts include ones written by the likes of Steven Moffat, Mark Gatiss, Toby Whithouse, Matthew Graham, Steve Thompson and a certain Mr Neil Gaiman...

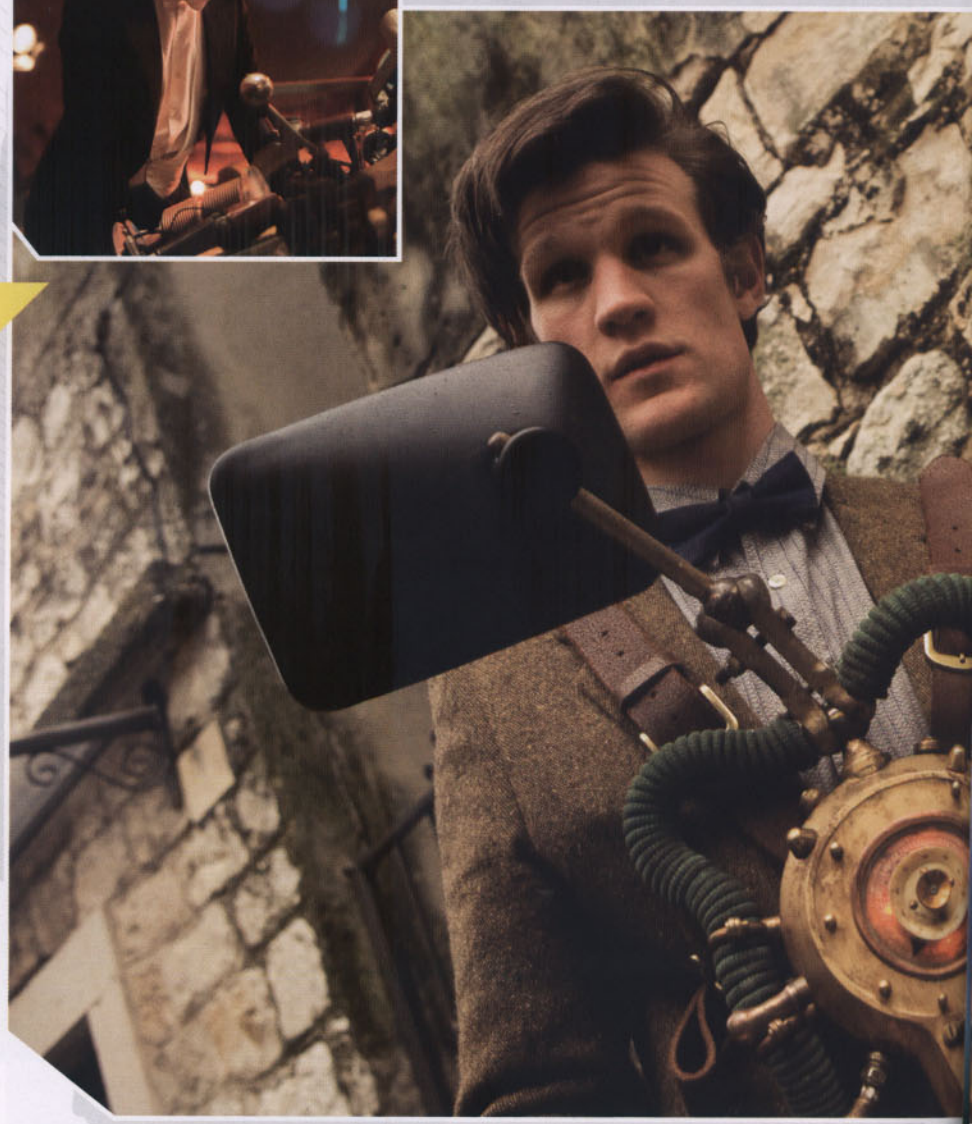
"He was wonderful to work with, the sci-fi royalty that is Neil Gaiman. We had Suranne Jones in that episode. It's mad and inventive and bonkers, sort of everything that Neil is."

Ah yes. The guest stars. There's also a whole host of fabulous supporting artistes lined up to add to the characters of the *Doctor Who* universe, including Hugh Bonneville, Frances Barber and David Walliams. Matt enthuses – and I mean really genuinely enthuses – about them all.

"It gets the most wonderful actors. That's one of the most thrilling things for Arthur and Karen and I, we've learnt from these really brilliant actors, it's constantly changing and change is exciting when it's change like that. That's been one of the real virtues of playing this part, I think."

Mention of Arthur and Karen reminds me that, of course the Doctor's now travelling with a married couple – a dynamic he's never shared his own living space with before. How has Steven written for the Doctor's latest predicament?

"Well again, very brilliantly actually. He knows the character so well and again he pushes the limits of him. But what Steven very cleverly understands is the Doctor's stupidity. He understands his foibles and his insecurities and I think that he plays with all of those things. What's interesting about this particular storyline is that for once the Doctor doesn't know the most, and usually he does. It's quite an interesting position



that he finds himself in. I think particularly sort of narratively it's very interesting for a companion to know more, which is what happens. It's cool, it's a challenge for all of us because it reverses the expectation of the themes."

> ***"I don't know what happens in the finale yet. I'm really intrigued to know."***

Ah, so in this series he's not as all knowing because Amy and Rory know what's going on...

"But they're keeping it from him, exactly yeah," he finishes. "So he sort of knows the least. Or does he? This is what we're going to find out, and I have no idea. It's quite interesting that he's the cleverest man in the universe but he's being duped by his friends. And the information that they do know is the worst information in the world..."

He divulges that information. I know what happens and even I'm incredibly shocked. Still. "It's full of drama, eh?" he teases. I splutter. How's the Doctor possibly going to get out of this one?

"Well, it's all about time really," he says with a wave. "Sometimes you can't know your own future because it'll create a hideous paradox. He knows what's going to happen but he doesn't know what's going to happen to himself, which is why River's such an interesting character and why I think this series is going to be such an interesting journey for those two particular characters, because the Doctor's going to find out who River is."

I gasp. There's a pause. Is he? Really?

"Well I think so. I," he says stressing the personal of the smallest word in the universe, "think so. I hope so. The problem is that I just don't know what the final eps are about, I literally haven't read or heard anything, so I don't know. But I think… What can I give you for the second part of the series? I think everyone's going to be pushed to their limits and it's hopefully going to feel like a real ending."

Silence has indeed fallen – between us. "Ending for who?" I ask. There's a look from Matt.

"Well exactly," he answers cryptically. "Maybe that's exactly the question."

Internet forums across the world explode...

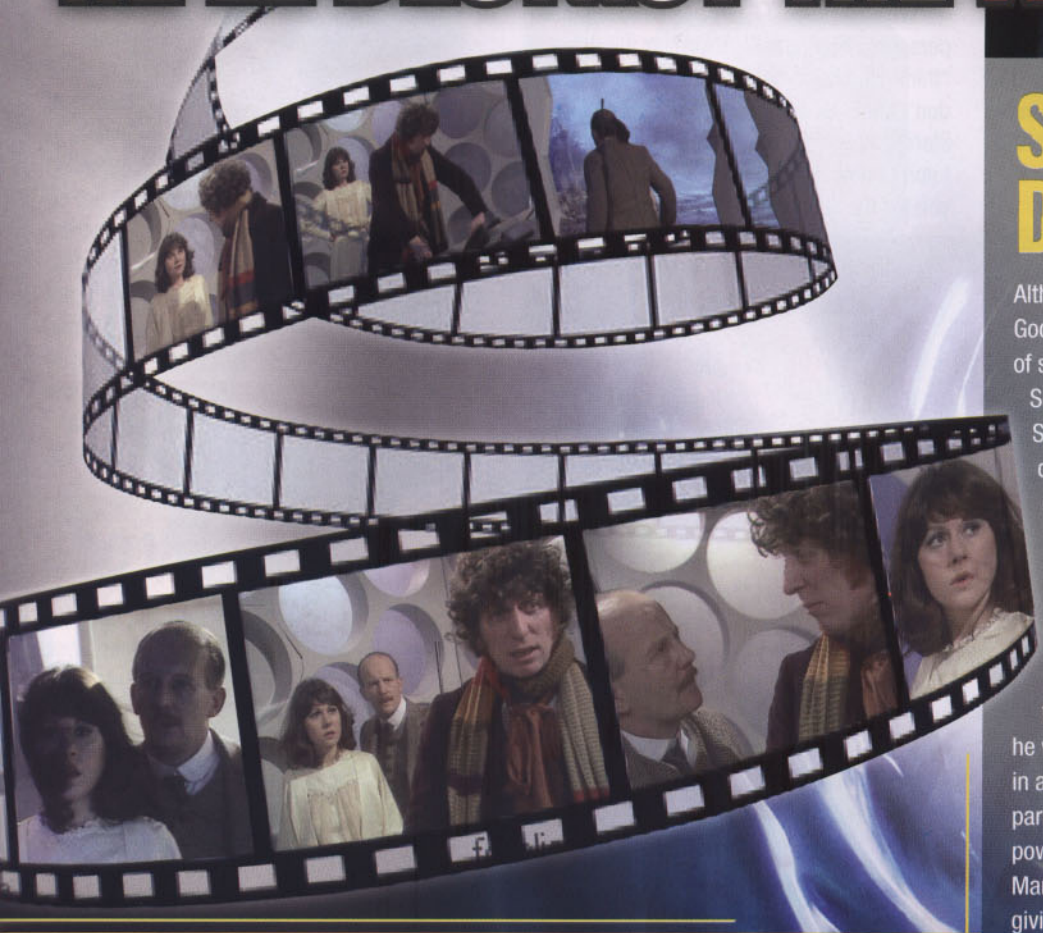
The Doctor's companions are are now a married couple.

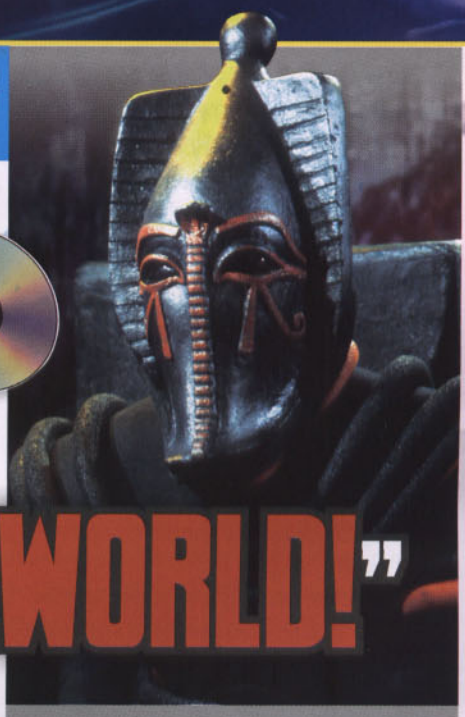
River Song's secrets will soon be revealed to the Doctor!

We take a closer look at an important moment from one of the Fourth Doctor's adventures.

PYRAMIDS OF MARS (1975)
EPISODE TWO, TRACK 4

"IF SUTEKH ISN'T STOPPED, HE'LL DESTROY THE WORLD!"





SUTEKH THE DESTROYER

Although worshipped as an Egyptian God, Sutekh was really the last of a race of super-powered aliens, the Osirans. Sutekh, also known as Set, Sadok, Satan and the Typhonian Beast, detested life in all its forms and set out to eliminate it from the universe. Turning on his own people, Sutekh destroyed his home world, Phaester Osiris and later the planet Mars in our own solar system. The Osirans, led by Sutekh's own brother Horus, finally captured Sutekh on Earth. There he was imprisoned beneath a pyramid in ancient Egypt, conscious but totally paralyzed. He remained entombed and powerless until 1911 when archaeologist Marcus Scarman broke into the pyramid, giving Sutekh the opportunity to escape and continue his crusade of destruction.

WHAT HAPPENS? »

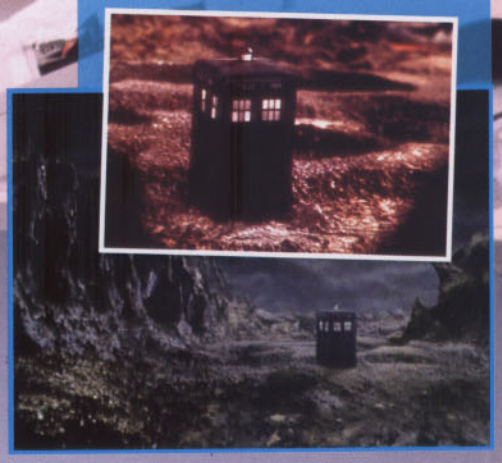
When the TARDIS is dragged off course, the Fourth Doctor and his companion Sarah Jane Smith find themselves in England in 1911. There, in an old priory, the servants of the all-powerful Sutekh are working to release their master from eternal imprisonment beneath a pyramid in Egypt. If they succeed and Sutekh is released, he will destroy the world.

But Sarah is perplexed by the Doctor's concern and believes they have nothing to worry about. She points out that she comes from the future where the world exists and all is well, so clearly Sutekh didn't destroy it in 1911. But, as the Doctor sadly explains, things aren't quite as simple as that. Accompanied by Laurence Scarman who has joined them in their fight against Sutekh, the Doctor takes Sarah forward in time in the TARDIS to 1980. On arrival, Sarah steps out of the ship onto a devastated, lifeless, windswept world. This is the Earth as Sutekh would leave it. Sarah sadly realizes that unless they return to 1911 to defeat Sutekh, the world she knows will cease to exist.

THE DEVASTATED WORLD

It was originally intended to show the police box exterior of the TARDIS arriving in the alternative future. A short model sequence was filmed but director Paddy Russell decided not to include it in the final version of the episode, preferring that the viewers should first see the destroyed Earth at the same time as Sarah.

Although cut from the episode, the short scene can be watched on the DVD where it is included as an extra.



Pages from the camera script of Episode Two of Pyramids of Mars.

Michael Pickwoad, *Doctor Who*'s production designer on flying fish, cryogenic coffins and creating a Dickensian Christmas in space...

Practical Magic

Interview by: Cavan Scott

EXT. SARDICKTOWN – NIGHT: PRESENT 1

FX: Flickering streetlamps, a narrow street. Foggy and frosty, but no snow. HURRYING FIGURES wrapped up tight against the cold. Victorian in effect, though not in detail. This is a colonized planet, several decades on. This is a city of iron – girders and rivets and rust – with narrow windows, a twisting labyrinth of slanting alleyways, and raised walkways. Squalour rendered beautiful by heightened reality – like the set of Oliver!

The above words are what greeted Michael Pickwoad when he received the script for *A Christmas Carol*, the 2010 Christmas Day *Doctor Who* special. It was no small task. Take Dickens' ghostly little book, throw in a flying shark and set the entire thing on a poverty-stricken, 44th-Century planet.

Michael would soon discover that such challenges were all in a day's work in his role as *Doctor Who*'s new Production Designer.

I've managed to grab half-an-hour with Michael in his office at Upper Boat Studios near Cardiff and have asked him to cast his mind back almost a year to his first *Doctor Who* story. Every surface is smothered by heaps of paper, the bookshelves crammed with well-thumbed tomes on every aspect of art and architecture and the walls are covered by paintings, sketches and photos offering tantalizing glimpses of Matt Smith's second series of *Doctor Who*. One picture in particular

Heavy metal

When it came to building the streets of Sardicktown, Michael looked to Wales' industrial past, finding a perfect location in nearby Newport.

Mir Steelworks was founded in the early 1970s but had closed after filing for bankruptcy four years ago. When Michael scouted the site as a possible location in early 2010, it was preparing to partly reopen, but still had plenty of space to house *A Christmas Carol*'s exterior scenes. Filming would take place at night, when production had stopped and there was no need to black out the huge windows in the roof, which only added to the location's otherworldly atmosphere.

"From the outside, Mir looked like a wonderful location, all ventilators and heavy metal," Michael remembers, "but when we went inside we were completely blown away. Everywhere you looked there were extraordinary blast furnaces, giving you the most obscure shapes imaginable. Even before we built anything the place already looked weird."

"In a strange way it still is daunting, especially when you go into a café and spot little children playing with sonic screwdrivers. You find yourself thinking that you can't let them down. It's up to you to keep the mystique and the magic going."

catches my eye. There, next to a giant blueprint of what looks like a stately home, is a black and white still of the very first actor to play the Doctor, William Hartnell, deep in conversation with a white-haired gentleman. At first it seems an odd choice of picture until Michael explains. The white-haired gentleman is in fact his father, who under his stage name William Mervyn played Sir Charles Summer in the *Doctor Who* adventure *The War Machines* back in 1966. So, it would seem that *Doctor Who* has been a part of Michael's family's life for a long time. Was it daunting, therefore, to take on such a pivotal role in a programme that has such a long history?

"In a strange way it still is daunting," Michael admits, "especially when you go into a café and spot little children playing with sonic screwdrivers. You find yourself thinking that you can't let them down. It's up to you to keep the mystique and the magic going." »

A study in steel

What then of a little Yuletide magic? Where did Michael draw his inspiration for *A Christmas Carol*?

"It was all there in those first few paragraphs of the script," Michael says. "Here you have a Scrooge-like character lording it over a Dickensian city in another time and place. It immediately started to come together. Kazran Sardick wasn't just Scrooge on another planet. He was Citizen Kane on another planet. Everything came from that. Here let me show you."

And with that Michael dashes around the office for a second, checking under countless piles of drawings, until he recovers a big black portfolio full of his designs for the story. The first page reveals his original sketch of Kazran's imposing study, 18-foot tall columns dwarfing the figure of Michael Gambon's miser hunched in his chair. "We looked for ages for a location where we could build such an over-the-top set," Michael says, flipping through the pages showing details of the columns that were based on those found in Castle Howard in North Yorkshire, and the European chateau-style fireplace that the Doctor uses to make his most dramatic entrance in the show's history. "Eventually we decided the only way of doing it was to build it here, on one of the stages."

The rest of Kazran's dominion developed from this one set. As the script indicated, it was a world of iron and steel, bolted together from the ships that carried the original colonists across the stars. "When creating a place like this, there needs to be a visual logic. Why is everything made from metal?" Michael asks before answering himself. "Well, the town's founders were shipwrights. That's what they knew. That's how they built things, with everything riveted together. So the walls of Kazran's house were made to look like oxidized bronze, with metal paneling instead of wood. It's still Victorian, but heavily industrialized."

Past influences

"You need to believe what you're looking at, believe it's how people live and work."

Inspired by the steelworks, the streets of Sardicktown began to form both in Michael's mind and on his drawing board. He drew on his experience of working on productions of *David Copperfield* and *Oliver Twist* to add flourishes of Dickens, including a blink-and-you-miss-it Olde Curiosity Shop and a Bob Crachit-style hovel for the family of Katherine Jenkin's character, Abigail.

Then came the fish. To create a planet where humans lived alongside flying fish Michael searched for a nautical theme. "A designer's job is to underline the message of a story and it suddenly came to me. We needed portholes. Every window would be round in Sardicktown."

The presence of the fish brought other design considerations. The last thing the inhabitants of Sardicktown would have wanted was a school of herring darting in through the front door or minnows streaming down the chimney. So every porch and chimney pot was fashioned with grills and covers. "It's the visual logic again," Michael says. "You need to believe what you're looking at, believe it's how people live and work. It's the same for the props. As I studied engineering at university, I hate machines that look like they couldn't do what they're meant to. Yes, you need the audience to take a leap of faith every now and then, but everything must look like it works."

Michael is on a roll now, flicking through Kazran's possessions, losing himself in the steampunkish designs. There's the projector the Doctor uses, a glorious lash-up of a 19th-Century magic lantern and a LCD projector, Kazran's mobile candlestick telephone, a heavy looking riveted laptop and Michael's crowning glory – the weather machine. "The inspiration for the weather machine came from the organ Vincent Price plays in the old Dr. Phibes movies." Michael admits, "Kazran sits there in the seat of power with all these pipes rising up to the clouds above. And of course, it couldn't look like something you'd find in an engine room. This had pride of place in Kazran's baronial living quarters and like all things 19th-Century had to look like a piece of Gothic furniture, hiding away all the wonderful technology."

On Kazran's heavy duty laptop

"I have this old Toshiba laptop at home with a metal case. It's a glorious thing that feels like it will last. It struck me this was how the shipwrights of Sardicktown would make a laptop, riveting it together."

DEEP FREEZE

If the weather machine is Dr. Phibes' organ then the cryogenic bays, deep beneath Kazran's tower, are the *Phantom of the Opera*'s catacombs, shrouded in swirling mist.

"The cryogenic units were designed like a Mafia coffin," says Michael with morbid glee, digging out the original renders of the sarcophagus-like devices, "made of metal but beautifully lined." 23 cryogenic units were made in total. One was a practical prop with a working door while, other than two almost perfect copies that were used in close-ups, the rest were light polystyrene mock-ups that could be easily moved to make room for the camera.

> ***"I got in it one day and sat in there looking out, thinking this is rather peaceful, a nice escape from filming."***

Designed so that the porthole was just the right height for Matt's line of sight, a step had to be built into Catherine's unit so you could see her frozen features perfectly framed through the window. Looking at the designs, I wonder aloud if Catherine found them claustrophobic.

"I don't think so," Michael replies. "I got in it one day and sat in there looking out, thinking this is rather peaceful, a nice escape from filming." He flips the page before adding, "Yes, I like those. They might get reused one day... Everything is reused in *Doctor Who*." He reveals, "There's one particular set that has been used in Series Six, time and time again."

What of Sardicktown? Should we be looking out for any of the *A Christmas Carol* sets in upcoming episodes. At first Michael says no, before quickly correcting himself. "The big round window in Kazran's bedroom," he remembers, pointing at a photo of himself lounging on the windowsill during the recording. "One of the recent episodes called for a large window in a security room looking out into space. We popped a plain sheet of glass in it and there you go, it's a whole new window."

So, more magic is required. Let's face it; we're talking about *Doctor Who* here. Fans will pore over these episodes for years to come. If you're going to re-use sets you'd better disguise them pretty well or they'll be spotted instantly. Michael laughs at the thought: "If fans want to look out for re-used set pieces they can," he says with a wicked glint in his eye, "but for every one they think they've spotted there will be many they've missed. You have to give them a challenge, don't you?"

On Kazran's portraits

"They were painted by my eldest daughter, Katie. My youngest daughter, Amy, is now standby art director on alternate blocks. It's very satisfying – three generations of my family have worked on *Doctor Who*."

On the lost painting

"This was to be a painting in Kazran's study. It's based on *Coalbrookdale by Night*, an 1801 painting by Philip James de Loutherbourg that symbolizes the birth of industry. We named it *The Birth of Sardicktown*, but it never made it in the final show."

On comments that the spaceship in *A Christmas Carol* is a bit like the USS Enterprise

"If you're going to invent something completely new you'll always have to explain it. We didn't have time for this. We needed something everyone would instantly recognize as a spaceship. If the entire episode was about a new spaceship we wouldn't have done that."

On creating a harness for a shark

"You have to look at how a horse is harnessed and work from that. You'd need a double yoke and leave space for the fin. Above all you have to believe you're actually doing the job, otherwise it'll never look like it would work."

CAVAN SCOTT TALKS TO THE BIG FINISH CREATIVE TEAM ABOUT SONTARANS, TURLOUGH'S LOVE LIFE AND SPIKY FAMILIES...

RETURN of the HEROES

ART BY ANDY WALKER

Thousands of Sontaran boots march in time to a dirge-like imperial anthem. Before you know it, the hordes of parading Sontarans break into song: "Sontar! Sontar! We live for Sontar! Sontaran troopers are bred for war!"

So begins *Heroes of Sontar*, the first of three new audio adventures from Big Finish Productions, reuniting the Fifth Doctor with his companions Tegan, Turlough and Nyssa once again.

It's a momentous occasion. Big Finish first started producing *Doctor Who* audio adventures 12 years ago. Every month a brand-new, full-cast drama is released fea actors from the TV series, including Doctors Peter Davison, Colin Baker, Sylvester McCoy and Paul McGann. Along with many of the original companions, they have also brought back some classic monsters. Daleks, Cybermen, Autons and Zygons have all found their way into Big Finish audios, yet somehow it's taken 146 stories for the Sontarans to make an appearance. Why on Sontar did it take so long?

"I actually inherited a potential Sontaran story from my predecessor, Gary Russell," recalls Big Finish executive producer and voice-of-the-Daleks Nicholas Briggs, "but the writer never delivered! Very disappointing. Then when we next started planning a Sontaran return, BBC Wales asked us not to use them, because they had plans for them on TV."

But now the Sontarans take their rightful place among Big Finish's rogues gallery of returning alien nasties. There's just one slight problem though... In the TV series, the Sontarans were always meant to be clones and yet with every appearance they look and sound decidedly different. One minute they're short, the next they're tall, they waver between having three or five fingers and even became distinctly Cockney during 1978's *The Invasion of Time*. So which incarnation of the allegedly identical clone warriors have Big Finish opted for?

"All of our actors playing Sontarans were briefed to watch Kevin Lindsay as Commander Linx in *The Time Warrior* [the original Sontaran story]," producer David Richarson reveals, "and each of them came to the studio with a different variation on that wonderful raspy voice."

> "Just because they're a clone species doesn't mean every Sontaran needs to be identical."

ART BY ANTHONY LAMB

For writer and Big Finish script editor Alan Barnes, the fact that not all Sontarans are created equal isn't an issue. In fact, it's something he embraces. "Just because they're a clone species doesn't mean every Sontaran needs to be utterly identical," Alan claims. "They're not robots. Besides who's to say they all come from the same vat?"

As Alan's story reveals, Sontaran clones are produced from the DNA of many different warriors, rather than all stemming from one original source, which was a relief to director Ken Bentley. "If all the Sontarans sounded the same it would be a nightmare to follow the story on audio. Alan has given each one a distinct personality, which is a very important hook in the story."

> "All our actors playing Sontarans were briefed to watch Kevin Lindsay as Commander Linx."

"I needed them all to have their own quirks and characterisations," Alan continues, "because I wanted to write a story that just featured the TARDIS crew and the monsters. I didn't want humans stuck in the middle, because the focus automatically shifts from the Sontarans. It would have been easier to do an *Earthshock*-type story," he adds referring to the Fifth Doctor adventure that marked the dramatic return of the Cybermen in 1982, "but that's what they would have done in the eighties. We're smarter now."

Family ties

Other things seemed to have changed in the 28 years since this particular Doctor and his companions inhabited the TARDIS. Back then, the police box didn't seem a happy place to be. Everyone was either squabbling, whining or wanting to get home. Fast-forward to 2011 and the TARDIS crew appears to have mellowed. Yes, there's still the odd audio-equivalent of a withering stare, but the time-travellers seem to be getting on better.

"You still need to include the odd squabble or disagreement – impossible not to, with Tegan and Turlough about – " says Stephen Cole, writer of *The Kiss of Death*, the second play in the season, "But you write it as you wish it had been back then, with them all pulling together, so you can get on with telling the story."

"There's something very interesting about this team," Alan agrees. "You have two really strong women with two rather effete men.

It's a great dynamic. Four people who are all incomplete in the real world – an orphan, two outcasts and a woman out of time – come together to form their own family. And, of course," he adds, "who says families have to be cosy? They can be spiky and awkward."

Perhaps most awkward is Turlough, an alien lad who hasn't had much luck in life. He's been exiled, enslaved and generally distrusted – usually for good reason. Thank heavens that *The Kiss of Death* puts him back in touch with his childhood sweetheart, Deela. Surely nothing could go wrong in a story entitled *The Kiss of Death*, could it?

"I liked the idea of giving Turlough the chance to be the hero for a change, to get the girl and act brave," says Steve, who had originally written for this TARDIS team in 2010's audio drama *The Whispering Forest*, "to explore a romantic dilemma for Turlough, rather than just having him wandering around looking slightly haunted as he often did on TV." But will the course of true love run smoothly for our favourite cowardly Trion? "It's unlikely," admits Steve, with a sly smile.

The Kiss of Death also roots around in Turlough's mysterious past. Back in the TV show, his true origins were only revealed in his swansong, *Planet of Fire*. "It's all just thrown away at the end," Alan says, despairingly, "We wanted to explore some of this background without blowing continuity out of the water. Steve took the idea of a character who knew about Turlough's past and ran with it."

Age matters

While Turlough, played by Mark Strickson, locks lips with an old flame and explores his ancestral seat, another member of the TARDIS crew is left wondering whether she will ever see her family again. Nyssa isn't the little girl that we are familiar with from the TV series. For the Doctor, Tegan and Turlough, these new stories take place just a few days after Nyssa left the TARDIS at the end of *Terminus*, but for Nyssa herself, fifty years have passed.

According to David Richardson the decision to introduce the aged Nyssa was one of necessity, especially when they worked out that there's only room for about 15 minutes of additional adventures between consecutive TV stories, *Mawdryn Undead* in which Turlough joins the TARDIS, and *Terminus* where Nyssa leaves.

"The continuity would have felt a bit tortuous," he admits. "Besides, the idea of a post-*Terminus* Nyssa meeting her friends again is a fascinating scenario. In the TV series Nyssa was often overshadowed by her companions, but now, older and wiser, she truly holds her own."

"It also gave us a very interesting story arc to play with," adds Alan eagerly. "As we were bringing Janet Fielding [who plays Tegan] back, it would have been all too easy to make everything Tegan-centric. Instead we have Nyssa burying away a hidden frustration. She's fallen back into this family unit after 50 years of being away and Tegan and Turlough are treating her as if nothing has happened. They can't quite see that there's a massive part of her life that they know nothing about and she's changed enormously. She's not a little girl anymore."

"Nyssa wasn't really a favourite character of mine, bar the obvious teenage hormonal appreciation," admits Tony Lee, who makes his Big Finish writing debut with the season finale, *Rat Trap*. "She was a genius and therefore not someone I could relate to. But

FROM DALEK CREATOR TO KING RAT

When director Ken Bentley saw that the script for *Rat Trap* called for a villain who spoke with three voices, he knew that he needed a strong actor to realise the twisted Rat King. Ken turned to *Doctor Who* alumni Terry Molloy, best known as the eighties' incarnation of Davros (pictured left), creator of the Daleks.

"We recorded all the scenes with Terry performing the Rat King," recalls Ken. "Then fellow cast-members John Banks and Andrew Dickens joined Terry to record all the lines again. It was a joy to watch. Terry remained our primary voice, while John and Andrew spoke over and around his lines, adding colour and variation to what he was doing."

"I was over the moon to hear that the Rat King and Wallace were being played by Terry Molloy," enthuses writer Tony Lee. "It made my day. Terry's one of the best actors in the business."

THE STORY SO FAR...

In 2009, Big Finish Productions announced that Janet Fielding would be reprising her role as Tegan Jovanka and would be returning to the TARDIS as a regular member of the crew for the first time since her departure from the TV series in 1984. Janet joined co-stars Peter Davison as the Fifth Doctor, Sarah Sutton as Nyssa and Mark Strickson as Vislor Turlough, reuniting a classic team of time travellers. The result was three of the most eagerly awaited stories in Big Finish's history...

***Cobwebs* by Jonathan Morris**
Searching for a cure to a virulent disease, Nyssa explores a deserted cobweb-strewn facility on the toxic planet Helheim. Her past is about to catch up with her.

***The Whispering Forest* by Stephen Cole**
The inhabitants of Purity Bay live their lives continually afraid of dirt, disease and the mysterious Takers who snatch members of their community in the still of the night.

***The Cradle of the Snake* by Marc Platt**
Worried that the Mara has once again established control over Tegan, the Doctor sets course for Manussa. But when they arrive centuries too early, the Doctor realises that he might have just sacrificed the future...

that's changed. The new, audio Nyssa is half a century older, haunted and keeps secrets. Suddenly the flaws are more visible and I find a reason to really like the character."

Going underground

Tony, best known for his work on the IDW *Doctor Who* comic books, received the invitation to pitch a story for the Big Finish range while visiting his old high school: "I sat typing a frantic 'yes please – don't ask anyone else' email on my phone as parents walked their kids past me, staring at the strange, giggling man in the car. It's a wonder I wasn't arrested." As soon as he got home, Tony fired off a pitch that saw the Doctor being stalked through the London Underground. "Alan thought that the Underground was a little overused and asked for something different. My wife Tracy suggested the knackered old ex-Cold War tunnels than run under Dover and *Rat Trap* developed from there.

"One trick I thought we missed in the first three stories was to do something actually set in 1983," remembers Alan. "We started to bat ideas around and rats were mentioned – specifically James Herbert's *Rats*. Before we knew it, we had laboratory rats experimenting on humans in tunnels."

Rat Trap is almost certainly the most disturbing of the three tales in this mini-season, with genetically-enhanced rodents, rat hybrids and a particularly nasty moment in an oversized exercise-wheel. Is Tony a horror fan? "I don't read much horror," he admits, "and I sure don't write it. But this was an opportunity to bring the characters out of their comfort zone, and to do that I had to move out of mine. I needed to keep it dark."

Alan Barnes, on the other hand, hesitates before calling *Rat Trap* a horror story: "There was a time, back in the nineties and 2000s, when *Doctor Who* was largely unregulated and people did some extraordinarily challenging things," recalls the former *Doctor Who Magazine* editor. "Time has moved on and we have to be aware of where the series is now. I always have it in the back of my mind that someone's granny might buy one of these for their 11-year-old grandchild who loves the TV series. You have to be careful with doing really horrible stuff."

Rewriting history

Even as the finishing touches are being made to the Doctor, Tegan, Turlough and Nyssa's latest adventures, work has begun on a further reunion for this team. "We've already planned the next three stories," David reveals, "which will be recorded in December when Mark Strickson next returns to the UK from New Zealand." Any hints of what might come? I receive the kind of look that tells me that I'll just have to wait and see. Whatever happens, it's obvious that the Big Finish team hold much fondness for this era of *Doctor Who*, but they're not afraid to try and improve on an already winning formula.

"We get to explore the characters we love in a way that wasn't done at the time," Alan explains. "We're able to pull out bits that deserve more exploration, like Turlough's backstory, and give them the storylines they never would have got in 1983. The prevailing attitude of the day was that you could only present someone like Tegan as a stroppy woman. With hindsight you can recreate these characters as they always should have been. OK, we're trying to go back and correct things, but if there is an ambition behind these stories, it's to make classic *Doctor Who* better than it ever was."

These new audio adventures for the Fifth Doctor will be released monthly on CD and as mp3 downloads beginning with *The Heroes of Sontar* in May. For details of how to purchase these and many other *Doctor Who* audio adventures, visit the Big Finish website at www.bigfinish.com

DOCTOR WHO

OUT NOW!
DVD: $14.98
BLU-RAY: $19.98

A Christmas Carol

FISH WARNING

Drawn to the light from the crystalline fog, the fish are able to fly through the air – possibly due to a small electrical charge, according to the Doctor.

SHARK ATTACK

When the Doctor goes fishing he catches more than he bargained for and loses half his sonic screwdriver in the process when this big, dangerous fish swallows it.

CLOUD CONTROL

Kazran's father built a machine to manipulate the ice crystals in the cloud layer with sound waves. This allowed him to control the fish, the fog and access to the planet from space.

ABIGAIL PETTIGREW

Frozen with only days left to live, Abigail is thawed out in time to prevent a catastrophe with the soothing tones of her singing.

SONIC SOPRANO

Using one half of his broken sonic screwdriver as a microphone, the Doctor enables Abigail's singing to be broadcast to the sky and calm the turbulent cloud layer.

KAZRAN THE ELDER

Living under the shadow of his late father, Kazran Sardick is the most powerful man in Sardicktown. He has a heart of stone, but then he meets the Doctor...

THE TARDIS

With his time travelling vessel at his disposal, the Doctor is able to journey to the past and change the future.

THE THRASYMACHUS

This galaxy class ship becomes trapped in the cloud layer. Unless the Doctor can stabilize the clouds of tiny ice crystals, the ship will crash, killing all 4003 life forms aboard – including Amy and Rory.

THE DOCTOR

The Doctor believes there is still hope for the mean-spirited Kazran Sardick. To save Amy and Rory from certain death, he must travel into the past to soften the heart of this hard and bitter man.

TICK-TOCK

Time is running out, even for the Doctor. The 'S' on the clock stands for Sardick, and can be seen all over Sardicktown.

KAZRAN THE YOUNGER

Dominated by his father, nothing exciting or good seems to happen to the young Kazran, until one day the Doctor arrives, and nothing will be the same again.

SNOWMAN

When the Doctor's plan causes the first snowfall that Sardicktown has seen in years, he can't resist building a whole series of snowmen.

Art by: Lee Binding

"Nasty, brutish and short!"

A race of warriors who use cloning to reproduce themselves at a rate of a million soldiers every four minutes. They live only to wage war, hoping to die in battle whilst furthering the expansion of their vast empire.

THE SONTARANS!

Throughout his many regenerations, the Doctor has encountered the Sontarans in the past, present and future of Earth, as well as on his home planet Gallifrey. They pose a threat comparable to the Daleks and Cybermen, and the Doctor once described the clone creatures as "the most evil force in the galaxy." The principal enemy of the Sontarans are the Rutans, a race of shape-changers with whom they have been at war for centuries. The Earth, occupying a significant strategic position, has frequently become the battleground for the conflict between the two races.

"Sontar-Ha!"

The Sontaran war cry.

The Sontarans established a base of operations in Spain on present day Earth. There they intended to acquire the ability to time travel from the Doctor who was present in both his second and sixth regenerations.

The Two Doctors (1985)

"For the glory of Sontar!"

In 2009, the Sontarans, led by General Staal 'The Undefeated' of the Tenth Sontaran Battle Fleet, made an alliance with teenage genius, Luke Rattigan. Luke claimed to have invented the carbon dioxide reducing ATMOS devices that were installed in almost every car on Earth. In truth though, ATMOS was a creation of Sontaran technology and designed to emit a poisonous gas that would transform the entire world into a breeding planet for Sontaran clones.

The Sontaran Stratagem/The Poison Sky (2008)

TIME SCOOP

Immediately prior to his regeneration, the Tenth Doctor paid a visit to all of his former travelling companions, including Martha Jones and Mickey Smith who were now married and working as freelance alien fighters. Caught in a shoot-out with the Sontaran Jask, Martha and Mickey were saved by the Doctor, who rendered Jask unconscious by hitting his probic vent with a hammer.
The End of Time (2010)

How many fingers?

Unusually for a Sontaran, Styre had four fingers and a thumb. Most other Sontarans have only three digits on each hand.

Always eager to acquire unlimited access to time travel, the Sontarans boldly invaded the Doctor's home world of Gallifrey by using another alien race, the Vardans. The Doctor was able to repel the invaders with the deadly De-mat gun. Gallifrey was later destroyed in the Last Great Time War, a conflict in which the Sontarans were not allowed to participate, much to their annoyance.
The Invasion of Time (1978)

Following a battle with a Rutan squadron in space, Linx was forced to land on Earth in thirteenth century England. To repair his damaged ship, Sontaran Commander Linx used a primitive time machine to abduct human scientists from the future and put them to work as a slave labor force.
The Time Warrior (1973/4)

In Earth's far future, at a time when it had been abandoned by humanity, Field Major Styre was sent by the Sontaran Grand Strategic Council to assess the threat posed by humanity. Luring a group of human colonists to the deserted planet, Styre subjected them to a series of brutal physical and mental tests.
The Sontaran Experiment (1975)

Believing the Doctor to be responsible for the end of the universe, the Sontarans were members of an alliance of many of the Doctor's old foes who conspired to entrap him forever inside the Pandorica.
The Pandorica Opens (2010)

In orbit around the Earth in their battle cruiser, the Sontarans prepared to attack. But their former ally, Luke Rattigan, saw the error of his ways. Taking the Doctor's place, Luke teleported to the Sontaran ship. There he sacrificed himself by detonating the Doctor's Atmospheric Converter and destroyed the ship and all aboard.

The Sontaran Stratagem/ The Poison Sky (2008)

Commander Kaagh 'The Slayer' was the only survivor of the Tenth Sontaran Battle Fleet when their battle cruiser was destroyed by Luke Rattigan. Forced to crash land his scout ship on Earth, Kaagh attempted to complete the Sontaran mission to destroy the Earth but was defeated by the Doctor's former companion, Sarah Jane Smith and her young friends. Later, shamed by his defeat, Kaagh was forced to work as a mercenary and entered into an alliance with the alien Bane known as Mrs Wormwood.

The Sarah Jane Adventures: The Last Sontaran (2008) & ***Enemy of the Bane*** (2008)

Facing the enemy!

Although strong and extremely resilient to attack, the Sontarans have a weak spot on the back of their necks called the probic vent. This device has been implanted directly into the body of each Sontaran and they must use it regularly to connect themselves to an external energy supply which reinvigorates them.

A blow to the sensitive probic vent is extremely painful for a Sontaran, causing them to fall unconscious or even die. Although clearly a weakness, the Sontarans themselves consider their probic vent to be a strength as it forces them to always face their enemy.

KINDA

First Broadcast: 1982
DVD: Warner Home Video
Released: 12 April 2011
$24.99

ON THE PLANET OF THE KINDA, SOMETHING EVIL IS STIRRING IN THE DARK PLACES OF THE INSIDE...

TARDIS Crew:

The Fifth Doctor
Idealistic and fresh-faced time traveler

Tegan
Apple-throwing mouth on legs

Adric
Reckless but well-meaning math genius

Other characters:

Nyssa
Having a nap

Sanders
Blustering survey team commander

Hindle
Paranoid security chief – highly dangerous

Dr Todd
Brilliant and inquisitive scientific officer

Panna
Wise woman of the Kinda

Karuna
Daughter of Aris and Panna's helper

Aris
Kinda tribesman possessed by the Mara

Dukkah
The embodiment of evil itself – the Mara!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

This is the third adventure to feature the Fifth Doctor, a physically much younger version of the Time Lord than earlier incarnations. His youth brought with it a recklessness that often endangered the life of his companions. At this time, the Doctor was travelling with the airhostess Tegan Jovanka, Alzarian stowaway Adric, and Nyssa of Traken, who joined the Doctor after her father's body was taken over by the Master. At the end of the previous adventure, *Four to Doomsday*, Nyssa had fainted, and the Doctor brings the TARDIS to the planet Deva Loka so that she may recover...

WHAT HAPPENS...

Deva Loka is paradise, seemingly the perfect planet for the TARDIS crew to rest for a while. But there is darkness at the heart of this lush world as members of a colonization team have gone missing. Are the Kinda, the peaceful inhabitants of the planet, responsible? With the Doctor and Adric held prisoner in the dome by the colony team's unstable security chief, Tegan is left alone in the forest at the place of dreams. She finds herself trapped in a nightmare world and under the influence of the Mara, an entity of pure evil that seeks to use her to enter the physical world. Only the wise woman Panna knows the truth about Deva Loka and the Kinda. Can the Doctor find her in time to save Tegan and banish the snake-like Mara back to the dark places of the inside – or will paradise fall?

MAKING THE MYTH:

- Nyssa appears in only two scenes of *Kinda*, spending the duration of the story asleep in the TARDIS
- The sonic screwdriver can function as a delta wave form generator. *Kinda* sees the penultimate appearance of the sonic screwdriver in the original series – it would be destroyed in the next story, *The Visitation*
- There's always something to look at if you open your eyes
- There's a difference between scientific curiosity and meddling (isn't there, Adric?)
- Adric is usually hungry
- The Doctor attempts to communicate with the Kinda telepathically

DVD EXTRA FEATURES:

- Audio Commentary featuring Peter Davison, Janet Fielding, Matthew Waterhouse and Nerys Hughes
- *Dream Time* – the cast and crew look back on the making of Kinda
- *Peter Grimwade - Directing with Attitude* - the work of the Doctor Who director and writer is remembered
- Deleted and Extended Scenes
- CGI Effects Comparison
- Trails & Continuity
- Photo Gallery
- Optional CGI – the option to watch Kinda with new special fx
- Isolated Score
- PDF materials: *Radio Times* Listings
- Production Notes Subtitle Option

INTERVIEW: JANET FIELDING

I AM THE MARA

As Tegan, actress Janet Fielding became the host to an evil alien presence from the world of dreams.

How would you describe the Mara?
It's the collective evil unconsciousness of a race. And that's what inhabits Tegan – on a permanent basis actually! No, that's not true. Tegan is a good-hearted woman. A bit like a hedgehog – prickly on the outside.

What did you think when you first read the script for *Kinda*?
I thought, well that's fun; I'll get to do a bit of acting. There are no road maps for acting possession by snake. Your imagination is the only thing that fetters you.

Tegan's voice was quite different when the Mara possessed her, wasn't it?
I remember thinking that my voice was still recognizable despite the radiophonic treatment. So, when I came to do *Snakedance* [the sequel to *Kinda*] I tried to use my breathing very differently.

The possessed Tegan lost her Australian accent.
Yes. I thought the British were probably more evil than the Australians.

Did you understand *Kinda*?
I thought *Kinda* was actually fairly clear. When we were in rehearsal, if we didn't understand anything we used to try to work through the logic of it. Each story had to have its own internal logic. If it doesn't then you have to be clear about where that breaks down otherwise it's terribly difficult to gauge where you are.

Were you aware of the Buddhist connection to the story?
I didn't know until later – talking to the writer, Chris Bailey – that it was a Buddhist allegory. I'm not your natural sort of Buddhist personality. They tend to be tranquil. I don't do tranquil. I'm not interested in tranquil. I don't see it sitting squarely with the rest of the universe – big bang and all that.

FACT INTO FICTION:

Writer Christopher Bailey was inspired by the Buddhist religion when writing Kinda. Mara is the demon that tried to tempt Buddha, while Deva Loka is the realm where gods exist. Panna means wisdom, and Dukkha is suffering.

WHAT THEY SAID...

"Kinda was a wonderful, strange story – deeper than usual. That poor lunatic and his cardboard city. Terrifying yet pitiful."
MATTHEW WATERHOUSE (ADRIC)

"I'm often asked why I wasn't in *Kinda*. I think the reason was that they wanted to give one of us a decent story, and that was Janet. Someone had to have a headache for a couple of episodes, and that was me. I didn't mind. It gave me the chance to do a bit more shopping!"
SARAH SUTTON (NYSSA)

"I did enjoy it enormously, smashing the pot plants and constructing the little cardboard city. I always give it everything."
SIMON ROUSE (HINDLE)

Compiled by: Mark Wright Art by: Clayton Hickman

Further Adventures:

SNAKEDANCE (DVD available 12 April 2011)
On the planet Manussa, Tegan faces the evil of the Mara once again – turn the page to find out more!

SNAKEDANCE

IT IS 500 YEARS SINCE THE MARA WAS DEFEATED ON THE PLANET MANUSSA – WILL THE SNAKE RISE AGAIN?

First Broadcast: 1983
DVD: Warner Home Video
Released: 12 April 2011
$24.99

TARDIS Crew:

The Fifth Doctor
Idealistic and fresh-faced time traveler

Tegan
Away with the snakes...

Nyssa
Always-reliable and smart companion

Other characters:

Ambril
Greedy Director of Historical Research

Tanha
Exasperated Federator's wife

Dojjen
A snakedancer and man of few words

Lon
Son of Tahna. Bored

Dugdale
A showman, slave to the Mara

Chela
Assistant to Ambril, helps the Doctor and Nyssa

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Poor Tegan, she was left behind at Heathrow Airport at the climax to *Time Flight*, and then reunited with the Time Lord and Nyssa when they battled Omega in *Arc of Infinity*. But no sooner has she taken up her travels in the TARDIS again, Tegan is plagued by a recurring nightmare of a snake…

WHAT HAPPENS...

The Doctor is horrified when the TARDIS lands on the planet Manussa and learns that centuries before, this was the seat of the Sumaran Empire – the Mara. The evil from the dark places of the inside has returned and is once more coiling its malevolent influence around Tegan. The population of Manussa is preparing for a celebration of 500 years since the Mara was banished. During the final ceremony, the serpent will manifest again, using the power of the great crystal with Tegan, whose terrifying abilities are growing, as its host. To defeat the Mara and banish it from the mind of his companion forever, the Doctor must find the still point within himself – and a snakedancer called Dojjen.

MAKING THE MYTH:

- The Mara returned as part of the twentieth anniversary season of *Doctor Who*, in which every story featured an enemy from the Doctor's past. The other villains were Omega, the Black Guardian and the Master
- Nyssa is allowed a change of clothes for the first time since *Castrovalva* – a whole season ago!
- At the age of six, Tegan lived in a house that had a garden with a tree in it
- The Doctor and Nyssa spend much of episode three locked in a cell, the Doctor seemingly without means of unlocking the door – Nyssa even mentions the now-absent sonic screwdriver
- The Doctor is able to withstand the poison of a snake to communicate with Dojjen

DVD EXTRA FEATURES:

- Audio Commentary featuring Peter Davison, Janet Fielding and Sarah Sutton
- *Snake Charmer* - cast and crew look back at the making of the story
- Deleted Scenes
- In Studio – a glimpse behind the scenes during recording of Snakedance
- *Saturday Superstore* – Peter Davison's appearance on the popular British Saturday morning children's program
- Photo Gallery
- Isolated Score
- PDF materials: *Radio Times* Listings
- Production Notes Subtitle Option

INTERVIEW: MARC PLATT
SNAKE CHARMER

Author of the Seventh Doctor TV adventure, *Ghost Light* Marc Platt was thrilled to bring the Mara back to *Doctor Who* on audio!

What was your first thought when you were asked by audio producers Big Finish to bring back the Mara?
Incredibly honored. *Kinda* and *Snakedance* are pretty well my two favorite Fifth Doctor stories. I love Christopher Bailey's writing and the depth of imagination in both adventures, so I was thrilled and amazed to be asked.

Can you tell us a little about the story of *Cradle of the Snake*?
The Mara re-emerges within Tegan, ready to expand its grip on reality. The Doctor heads the TARDIS back to Manussa, but it's not the time or place he expected. This is Manussa long before the planet succumbed to the Mara and the Doctor finds that he's personally taken on board more than he intended…

You've created a highly detailed world for the pre-Mara Manussa…
In *Snakedance*, Manussa is the crumbled ruin of a once important empire, which was destroyed by the reign of the Mara. *Cradle of the Snake* is set on a much earlier Manussa, which already has quite an advanced crystalline technology with space travel and a small empire of planets. All this will be swept away by the Mara. Already the Hill Tribes, referred to in *Snakedance*, are warning of doom.

Why do you think the Mara is such a popular *Doctor Who* monster?
Because it's so different and enriches the familiar characters it preys upon, so that we see them from new angles. Forget the physical appearance of the snake; the Mara itself has dark implications for all of us. It's about dark thoughts, not just thinking the unthinkable, but doing it too.

Has the Mara gone forever...?
As the Doctor says, it's in all of us. But Christopher Bailey was the first to give us its name.

FACT INTO FICTION:

- **Once again, writer Christopher Bailey drew on the Buddhist religion as inspiration for *Snakedance*: Manussa is the human realm and Tanha means 'craving'**
- Dojjen was named for Dogen, a thirteenth century Zen master who lived in Japan
- Brian Miller (Dugdale) is the husband of Elisabeth Sladen, who played the Doctor's companion Sarah Jane Smith

WHAT THEY SAID...

***Kinda* and *Snakedance* both feature successful societies that have found ways to order their lives so the Mara is never realized. The ideas that I was trying to realize were quite complicated."**
CHRISTOPHER BAILEY (WRITER)

"That was quite unnerving. When you hold a snake, it's okay, but it's a very bizarre feeling. It's cold, very clammy and there's a muscular movement."
PETER DAVISON (THE DOCTOR)

Further Adventures:

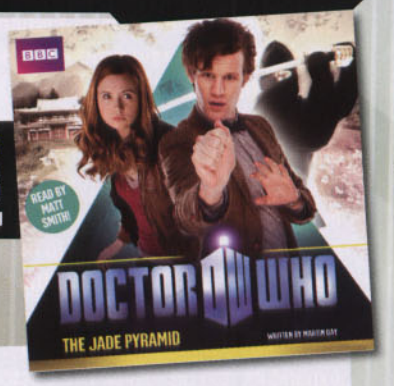
CRADLE OF THE SNAKE by Marc Platt
Audio Drama available now on CD and for download from www.bigfinish.com
Starring Peter Davison, Janet Fielding, Sarah Sutton, Mark Strickson

The Mara's influence still lurks deep within Tegan's mind, and the TARDIS crew returns to the planet Manussa centuries before the events of Snakedance to find a cure. But this time, the Mara hungers for a different prize...

Compiled by: Mark Wright Art by: Clayton Hickman

THE JADE PYRAMID AND THE GEMINI CONTAGION

The Eleventh Doctor's latest audio adventures see him face demons and Samurai in feudal Japan and a unique linguistic problem in the 22nd Century…



The Jade Pyramid

AudioGO $19.95
Authors: Martin Day and Jason Arnopp
Read by: Matt Smith and Meera Syal
Released: Out now

WHAT HAPPENS...

In medieval Japan, the all-powerful Shogun has dispatched seven Samurai to retrieve a mysterious artifact from the solitary Kokan shrine. As the Doctor tries to prevent a massacre and finds himself targeted by a ninja, Amy explores the shrine with a disgraced Ronin at her side. She soon discovers that the ogre-like manikins that guard the Jade Pyramid aren't what they seem…

MAKING THE MYTH:

- The Doctor claims he always tries to remain neutral in local matters. Really Doctor? Are you sure?
- Amy hates playing the defenseless female stereotype but will if it means she gets her own way
- The Doctor adds to his growing "Geronimo!" count
- When she was little, Amelia Pond visited a waxwork museum and freaked out, imagining that the dummies were waiting to come alive. Good job she's never going to meet the Autons. Oh, hang on…

FACT INTO FICTION:

The monstrous Otoroshi are huge, hair-covered manikins that guard the Kokan shrine.

They were inspired by traditional demons said to hang from the gates of Shinto shrines. If you dared enter the temple with mischief in mind, the hirsute sentinels would drop down from above and rip you to shreds. Nasty.

"The idea of the Otoroshi scuttling across ceilings came very late in the day," explains author Martin Day. "I didn't want them just shambling about like big overcoats – especially as, with audio books, one doesn't have to worry about the budget."

INTERVIEW: MARTIN DAY
BEHIND THE SCENES

Why did you choose to send the TARDIS to Japan?

I loved shows like *The Water Margin* and *Monkey* when I was a kid and have been interested in all things Oriental ever since. I don't consider myself an expert though. I've been doing kendo, kenjutsu and iaido for about five years and am very aware how little I know.

Was it daunting knowing that Matt Smith himself would be reading your story?

It certainly was a thrill to write for him. He was so new to the part that I wrote the whole thing without even seeing him as the Doctor. I later watched a sneak preview and was allowed a quick rewrite to make sure it wasn't a million miles wide of the mark.

THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Japan hasn't had much luck in the *Doctor Who* universe:

- The Master destroyed Japan during the calamitous year that never was (*Last of the Time Lords* – TV). Martha only just managed to escape the carnage (*The Story of Martha* – BBC Books).
- Japan was one of the first nations to fall to invading Dalek forces. (*The Stolen Earth* – TV).
- In the 17th-Century, alien scientists caused havoc by revealing the secrets of nanotechnology to a local matriarch. Cue a 13-story high reptile with laser vision and ultra-futuristic robotrox warriors. (*The Road to Hell – Doctor Who Magazine* comic strip).
- Energy vampire Axos took over the youth of Japan using a brain-enhancing fizzy drink and a cutesy Anime show (*The Golden Ones – Doctor Who Magazine* comic strip).
- The Doctor, Rose and Captain Jack visited Japan in 1226 for an untold adventure. Here's hoping they didn't cause too much grief. (*Bad Wolf* – TV).

The Gemini Contagion

Seven things you should know about *The Gemini Contagion*

1 It is 2112. On the ice-planet Vinsk a new handwash, Gemini, is about to ship to Earth. Its unique selling point is that it includes Meme-Spawn DNA. One wash of your hands will enable you to speak every language in the cosmos.

2 Meme-Spawn *(memicillius-spawnonica)* are micro-organisms that drift through the universe, absorbing each language they encounter. There is an annoying side effect: You'll also be transformed into a violent so-and-so with the insatiable – and highly contagious – need to speak every language at the same time.

3 "Inside your head, your brain is working overtime," writer Jason Arnopp explains. "You're desperate to communicate with whoever is within grabbing distance, but simultaneously attempting to process every single language in existence. It quickly drives you insane."

4 Once infected, the human inhabitants of Vinsk repeatedly yell, "Listen to me!" The urgent plea was inspired by Arnopp's belief that we're all listening to each other less: "We have more channels of communication than ever before, so pay less attention to each one. How may times have you half-listened to someone, while concentrating much more on the Really Fascinating Thing you're planning to say? We should stop that. Bad humans."

5 We discover Amy has always wanted to learn French but hasn't bothered, as she thought she'd never leave Leadworth. She soon becomes au fait with all manner of alien tongues.

6 Originally the virus was to be spread via an energy drink, until commissioning editor Michael Stevens pointed out the similarity to Bubble Shock! from *The Sarah Jane Adventures*. "A handwash is so much better," admits Arnopp, "I also liked an anti-viral handwash becoming a virus itself. You turn to it for protection, but there's no escape."

7 Arnopp's favorite character is Korn Palloa, the Vinskan scientist who causes the whole disaster. "Initially arrogant," says Arnopp, "she comes to regret not carrying out thorough tests on Gemini. Hopefully you feel a little sorry for her in the end."

Compiled by: Cavan Scott

DEAD OF WINTER

or TUBERCULOSIS AND HOW TO CURE IT

Author James Goss reveals to *Doctor Who Insider* the background of his forthcoming *Doctor Who* novel, *Dead of Winter* and what inspired him to write it.

It all started with a painting of a singing butler. In case you haven't seen it (you'll find it at your local shopping mall in an art store between a calendar of kittens and that print of a man hugging a baby), Jack Vettriano's painting shows a couple dancing on a beach while a butler shelters them from the rain with an umbrella.

It's a peculiar work of art, and I thought it would make a great basis for a *Doctor Who* story – especially if the butler was the Doctor – in which case, that would make the dancers Rory and Amy. But what would they be doing dancing on a beach in the rain, and, in that case, who is the mysterious figure of the unhappy young woman stood to one side?

This is the basis of *Dead of Winter*, although it's actually set about 150 years before the period shown in the painting. It's 1783, and the TARDIS lands in the Riviera in the off-season. The French Revolution is just around the corner, but the Doctor seems more interested in who would be staying at a resort in the winter.

The Earth is being attacked – not by aliens, but by a virus. Tuberculosis. In an age before penicillin or even basic hygiene, it was a killer that wiped out millions of people across Europe (and still does in some parts of the world). The victims were feared – with their pale skin and bloody lips, many people thought they were vampires.

So, the Doctor finds himself at a colony for the living dead. Shunned by society, they've come here to die. It was a terrible, lingering disease and it frequently took sufferers many years to die. That said, the sickness had certain tragically romantic associations among the upper classes. English literature is full of famously talented people who died young from it, such as the poet Keats and several Bronte sisters.

But the problem the Doctor, Amy and Rory encounter is that this dreadful disease has been overcome. 100 years early, the brilliant Dr Bloom has developed a cure. The enigmatic scientist is sending powerful politicians and royalty home fully recovered. And it's wrong – Europe's about to fall into a century of revolution and warfare, and the whole course of history could be changed. What's going to happen to all these powerful people who were sidelined because they suffered from such a debilitating disease? And what mysterious force could be behind it all?

I've tried to make *Dead of Winter* a slightly different kind of book. A lot of it is told through letters, journals, or different people's recollections of events (sometimes agreeing, sometimes differing sharply). The main narrator is Maria, an 11-year old girl writing home to her mother, but she shares the story with Mr Nevil, a bad-tempered Englishman, and Dr Bloom himself, a medical genius who is increasingly alarmed by the events taking place at his clinic.

The patchwork style tells the story of a very different kind of invasion, and of the way that people aren't quite what they seem. It's up to the Doctor, Amy and Rory to work out what's really going on at the seaside resort of St Christophe. What is Dr Bloom's miracle cure? Why do his patients spend their days sat on the beach staring out to sea... and who are the figures that come striding out of the waves to stand with them?

Dead of Winter is about how creepy resorts are in winter, and about the strange things that happen when no one is watching. Which leads us to Amy and Rory dancing on a beach in the rain while the Doctor looks on...

Doctor Who: Dead of Winter
BBC Books $11.99
Available: May, 2011

The Fifth Doctor is bewildered by the illogical, Escher-like architecture of Castrovalva.

How to tell if you have tuberculosis in the 18th Century...

- Do you spend long hours sat on a chaise-longue composing romantic poetry?
- Are you very pale and marvelously thin?
- Does your family suggest you travel as far away from them as possible in order to enjoy the splendors of Europe?
- Do you cough artistically into lace handkerchiefs?
- Is your pulling technique to tell people that you will die tragically young?

First Impressions

***Dead of Winter* isn't the first *Doctor Who* story inspired by an artist. Here are several other examples....**

CITY OF DEATH (1979)

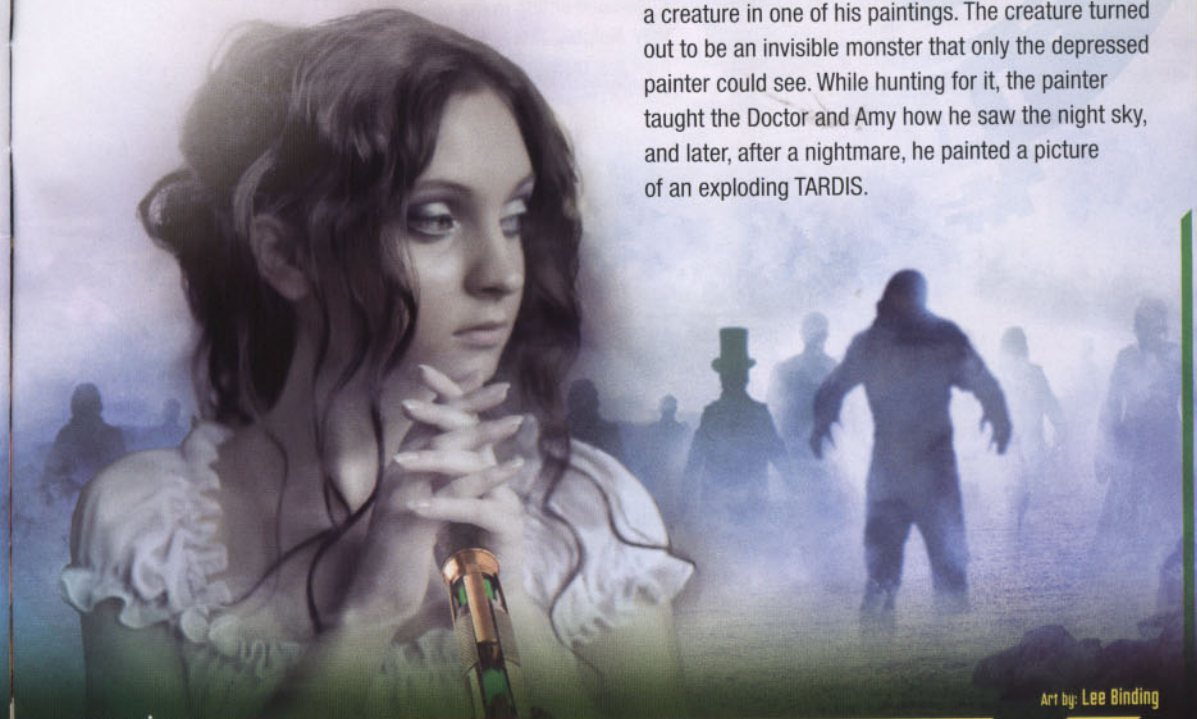
Leonardo Da Vinci's Mona Lisa is the centerpiece of this story. Or rather, seven Mona Lisas that Leonardo is forced to paint by the alien Scaroth while his future self steals the real Mona Lisa from the Louvre. After a fire, the only Mona Lisa to survive is a copy with 'This is a Fake' written under the paintwork in felt tip pen.

CASTROVALVA (1982)

The Fifth Doctor's first adventure saw him trapped in the town of Castrovalva, a place with an impossibly twisted geography and geometry, its look and feel based on several paintings by M C Escher, including Waterfall and Relativity, the latter featuring an impossible staircase that twisted back around itself, faithfully reproduced in the show.

VINCENT AND THE DOCTOR (2010)

The Eleventh Doctor met Vincent van Gogh having seen a creature in one of his paintings. The creature turned out to be an invisible monster that only the depressed painter could see. While hunting for it, the painter taught the Doctor and Amy how he saw the night sky, and later, after a nightmare, he painted a picture of an exploding TARDIS.



Art by: Lee Binding

A BIT OF HISTORY

Towards the end of the Eighteenth Century, people were just beginning to travel to the Riviera for their health.

English doctors were starting to send seriously ill patients there, in the hope that the fresh, clean air would prolong their lives. The medical profession was beginning to realize that people with hacking coughs were not doing well in the smog-filled cities.

In the 1770s, Tobias Smollett was sent abroad by his doctor, and wrote home many angry letters about his experiences on the Riviera, complaining about foreign medicine, food and hotels – but reluctantly admitting that a small town called Cannes had the potential to be a nice little spot someday.

At about this time people like Smollett were just beginning to encounter doctors who were setting up practices along the coast that capitalized on the health benefits of fresh sea air. But it would be nearly 100 years before the disease they treated acquired its modern name, or even a proper clinic dedicated to the treatment of Tuberculosis. In those days it was frequently called Consumption – as it appeared to eat up its victims from the inside out, cutting short a number of brilliant lives.

Underground Toys $60 Available: April 2011

REVELATION OF THE DALEKS
ACTION FIGURE SET

This Fourth Doctor action figure set is an impressive pack focusing on *The Sontaran Experiment*, first shown in 1975. The Fourth Doctor here is an unexpected variant – wearing the long brown overcoat that appears and disappears throughout his first season of adventures, and goes well with the previously released red-corduroy-jacket version. The eponymous Sontaran, Styre, is a pallid grey troll-like creature that, uniquely in the history of the Sontarans on-screen, had five digits on each hand, as opposed to the customary three – a detail that's perfectly captured here.

Styre comes with a gun, though as an accessory it's somewhat overshadowed by the round silver Sontaran 'battle ball' space ship, complete with a panel that allows Styre to be positioned sitting in the open doorway. Notably, this is the first ship other than the TARDIS to be released in the *Doctor Who* range. Here's hoping we see more in the future!

Underground Toys $60 Available now

THE SONTARAN EXPERIMENT
ACTION FIGURE SET

Underground Toys $60 Available now

RESURRECTION OF THE DALEKS
ACTION FIGURE SET

Following on from the *Resurrection of the Daleks* action figure set released in January, and with an eye very much to the collector market, this handsome gift set contains four characters from the 1985 adventure *Revelation of the Daleks.* In this adventure the Sixth Doctor and Peri visited the planet Necros, famous for its grandiose funeral services and (not entirely unconnected) artificial food production plants. At the heart of Necros lay The Great Healer, a pseudonym for insane scientist Davros, who had successfully bred a new race of Daleks.

As seen at the start of the story, the action figure of the Sixth Doctor is wrapped in a blue cloak with gold details (blue being the official color of mourning on Necros).

Davros is a variant of the figure seen in the *Resurrection of the Daleks* set, his hand missing after being shot off by the mercenary Orsini leaving only a bandaged stump smeared with green blood. The obligatory Daleks in this set are the gold-and-cream version created by Davros from the remains of Necros's nearly-dead millionaires and a dark grey and black 'Skaro' Dalek.

T SHIRTS

Ripple Junction
$18-$21
Available now

The many ranges of T-shirts now available reflect just how cool *Doctor Who* has become since its reinvention in 2005. The 'retro' character tee has become chic, something this particular range exploits fully. Available in adult and junior sizes, the stylish T-shirts come in a variety of designs. Two with an intentionally worn look depict a Dalek standing proud and the TARDIS depicted in front of a swirling vortex. Captioned tees include 'Trust me, I'm the Doctor' and 'Exterminate' alongside the slightly more niche 'The Angels have the Phone Box'.

The series logo is proudly emblazoned across the range, while of particular note is the clean line drawing image of the TARDIS, which shows off what a design classic it has always been.

This action figure gift set contains four characters from the 1984 adventure *Resurrection of the Daleks*, which was Peter Davison's only onscreen tussle with the Doctor's mortal enemies and which also saw the return of a noticeably redesigned Davros, creator of the Daleks, fresh from 90 years of cryogenic imprisonment.

The Fifth Doctor action figure is a variant of the previously released figure, sporting the bolder striped trousers and cricket jumper that he wore for most of his final season. The 'trooper' Dalek here has a dark grey-and-black livery and white discs on its eyestalk, while the supreme Dalek is jet-black, with white spheres on its skirt. Davros, as portrayed on-screen by Terry Molloy, boasts a highly detailed face sculpt, as well as an accurate recreation of his mobility chariot.

Compiled by: James Michael

SCANNER SCREEN

The camera lens of the TARDIS captures pictures of you, the reader, with some famous faces...

Amy Hirschman
Burbank, California

"These photos were both taken at an exclusive cocktail reception following a special screening of *The Eleventh Hour* in Los Angeles in April, 2010. The event was sponsored by the Los Angeles Branch of BAFTA, and I got in thanks to a friend of a friend of a friend. Literally! I was very lucky to have gotten to meet both Matt and Karen, as well as [executive producer] Steven Moffat!"

Danielle Carman
Medford, New York

"I met Karen at the New York City Screening of *Doctor Who* Series 5 Episode 1 at the Village East Cinema on April 14th 2010. My friend and I arrived at the theater around 1:30pm, and waited in line for six-and-a-half hours til the 8pm screening. Karen and Matt arrived and a ton of people rushed up to the start of the line to see them. Karen was so great and kind enough to pause for a photo with me even though there was a woman ushering her inside. I am so grateful she did that as not many stars do that for their fans. Even as both Karen and Matt were taken inside the theater, they were waving to all of us fans through the windows and looked genuinely excited to see such a turn out. It was a wonderful experience and I hope *Doctor Who* can be brought back again and again to America!"

Andre Tessier
Mineola, New York

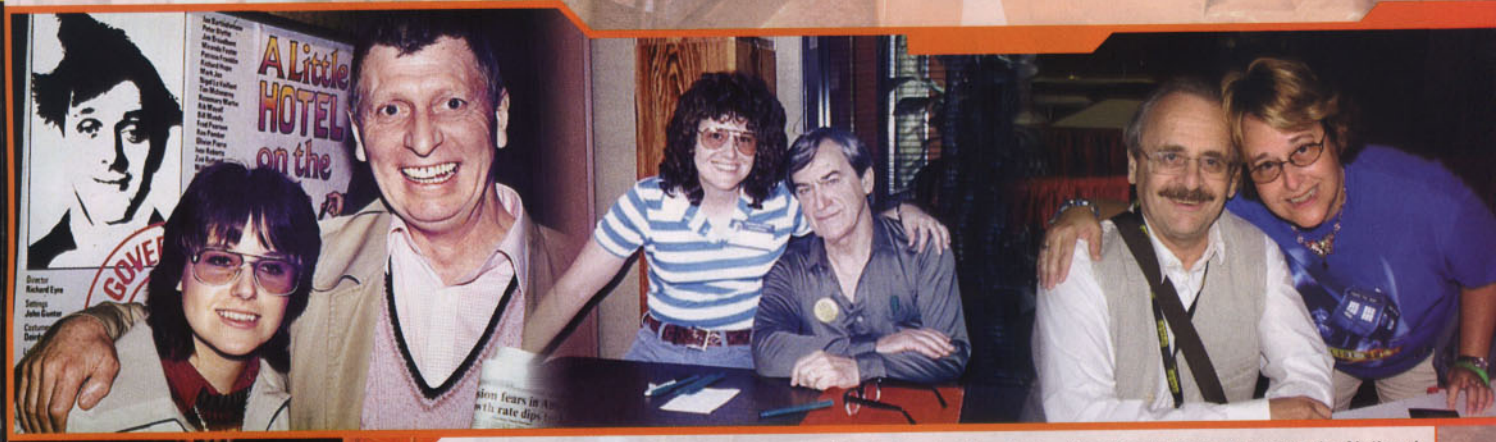
"This picture was taken of me asking Matt Smith if he would like a hat. This was taken at the BBC America Premiere of *The Eleventh Hour* in New York City. It was taken in April 2010."

Laura Rosiles
Austin, Texas

Elisabeth Sladen, who played the Doctor's companion, Sarah Jane Smith, poses with Laura and her son Matthew at the Chicago TARDIS convention in 2008.

Brett Whitmarsh
Wells, Maine

"During February of 2009, my girlfriend, another friend of mine and I took a trip to Cardiff. We spent the whole week looking for some kind of *Doctor Who* shooting out on location, knowing it was David Tennant's last month on the job. We spent a whole week there and fell madly in love with the city. On our final day, just as we were supposed to leave, I bumped into [former executive producer of *Doctor Who*] Russell T. Davies. He was waiting at a coffee shop to do a *Doctor Who Magazine* interview with the great Benjamin Cook. RTD was so very kind and gracious. He was happy to talk with us and humor this very big *Doctor Who* geek. Here is my very excited picture: I was so grateful to him, he made my year."



Jan Grokett
Orange Park, Florida

Lucky Jan has met three of the actors to play the Doctor: Tom Baker (the Fourth Doctor) outside the National Theatre in London in 1985; the late Patrick Troughton (the Second Doctor) in 1991, Columbus, Georgia; and Sylvester McCoy (the Seventh Doctor) in 2009 at Megacon in Florida. Just like the Doctor, Jan's hair has regenerated several times over the years as well!

Have you met the Eleventh Doctor? Bumped into Sarah Jane? Chatted to a Cyberman? Or posed with Davros? We'd love you to share your photographs with *Doctor Who Insider*'s readers. Just email a high-resolution image of yourself with a *Doctor Who* celebrity along with your name and full address to *dwi@panini.co.uk*

If your photograph is chosen to appear on these pages, *Doctor Who Insider* will send you one of the latest *Doctor Who* novels published by BBC Books. The readers featured in this issue will each be receiving a copy of *Dead of Winter* by James Goss which is published in May, price $11.99. Find out more about the novel on pages 34 and 35.

THE RECREATION GENERATOR

A selection of the fantastic fan creations, inspired by *Doctor Who*...

Wesleann
Austin, Texas

Wesleann, who has a degree in Costume Design and Construction, based her fantastic outfit on the Dalek Supreme (also pictured here) as it appeared in the 1973 Third Doctor adventure, *Planet of the Daleks*.
"I intended to make a Supreme Dalek-themed swimsuit to complement my personal collection of sci-fi/fantasy swimsuits, so the dress itself is made from brown, gold, and black Spandex. When I learned I would be attending Dragon-Con 2010, I switched gears and lengthened the design to be worn as a dress. To keep my hands free, I made Spandex bracers to hold my Dalek arm accessories, which were a plunger head and some whisks that were disassembled and then soldered into the correct shape. My 'eye stalk' gem was glued to my forehead, and the dome lights/energy bulbs were attached to a headband. I have been recognized many times wearing this outfit, and have battled many costumed Doctors since its creation. Exterminate!"

Chantelle Chapman
Atlanta, Georgia

Chantelle has knitted herself a life-size version of the Doctor's trusty sonic.
"I designed the pattern by looking at photos of the actual sonic screwdriver," she explains.

Ginny McQueen
Las Vegas, Nevada

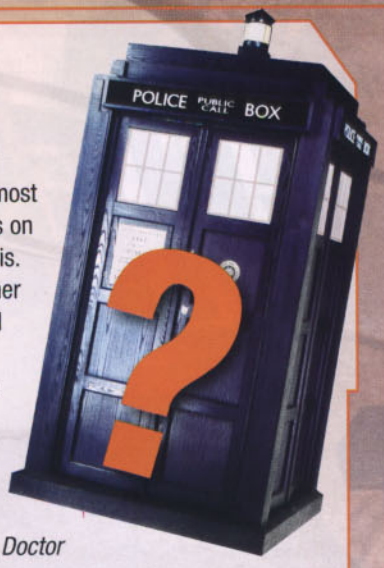
Ginny models her own recreation of Madame De Pompadour's dress from the episode *The Girl in the Fireplace* (inset). Posing with Ginny is Robert Kern as the Tenth Doctor.
"The dress was really difficult because it's been used in other shows/movies as well and due to the color tone of the episode, I had to find a happy medium between the real colors of the dress and how it looked on TV."

Rebecca Johnston-Carter
San Luis Obispo, California

"I learned how to crochet during January of 2009 and decided that I wanted dolls of every single regeneration of the Doctor. Later on I also made The Master [as played by John Simm], and Jack Harkness and Ianto Jones [from *Torchwood*]. My sister helped me make the TARDIS out of a shoebox and a lot of blue markers."

Where's the TARDIS?

The race is on to build the best time machine...



Since Christmas Day, Doctor Who enthusiasts across the nation have been keeping themselves busy sawing, carving, knitting and hammering. All with the same goal in mind: to build a TARDIS! Or, more accurately, to build the police box exterior of the TARDIS. The reason for this intense burst of creativity? BBC America have launched Where's the TARDIS? inviting you to construct your own police box and submit a photograph of it – taken at a suitably interesting location – to their website, www.wheresthetardis.com.

Matt Stein, vice president for promotions and creative services at BBC America, is the man who devised the concept behind the competition having been inspired by a student prank at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"Last year, some kids built and placed a TARDIS on the roof of one of their research laboratories," Matt explains. "Pictures of it made it on to the internet and we saw them and were thrilled that fans were showing the world their *Doctor Who* love and we decided to run a promo saying 'nice job kids, where do you think the TARDIS is going to end up next?'

"It got people talking about it and it created a really great energy. When we started working on our marketing plans for this year, we thought 'what about the TARDIS? Maybe there's something we can do to build on that? Wouldn't it be great to get other universities involved in TARDIS building?' We then thought, 'why limit it to just college kids? There are lots of people that are already building their own TARDISes.' We thought 'why not create a fun competition for everyone?'"

Entries into the competition, which runs until May 15, will be judged by Matt and his colleagues based on several different criteria: most original design, most creative use of materials, most creative placement in a public location, and most Facebook likes on wheresthetardis.com. The winner or winners will receive the fantastic prize of their very own private *Doctor Who* screening, plus over 100 *Doctor Who* DVDs.

"Because we envisioned this as a group effort," explains Matt, "we realized that it would be hard to give one single prize to a group of people. Why not have a screening of the second half of the new season on a date to be determined? Also, in case it was just one person, we've got this incredible library of *Doctor Who* on DVD from the show's 47-year history."

Even with several weeks still to go before the close of the competition, there has been a huge response, demonstrating the amazing creativity of *Doctor Who* fans through a wide variety of TARDIS creations.

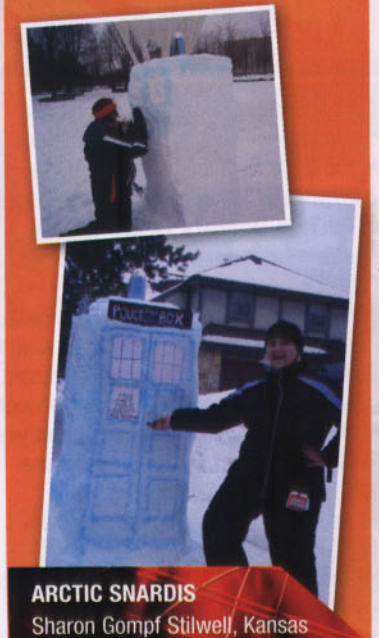
"The response has been just unbelievable," enthuses Matt. "There have been thousands of entries. More than we had really expected to get. The entries have been incredibly creative from fans of all ages. We're going to have a tough time choosing the best. It's an embarrassment of riches."

A small selection of the entries received by BBC America can be seen on these pages. A different TARDIS will also feature in a series of interstitials shown each week during the broadcast of the new series of Doctor Who.

There are still a few weeks to go before the competition closes, so it's not too late to build your own TARDIS and send in your entry. For full details, visit www.wheresthetardis.com.

Good Luck!

FRONT DOOR TARDIS
Mark Wallace Portland, Oregon



ARCTIC SNARDIS
Sharon Gompf Stilwell, Kansas

TARDIS KITE
Kara Caldwell and Kevin Bailey
Goodwin Kansas City, Missouri

If you have built your own prop, sewn your own costume or created anything at all based upon or inspired by *Doctor Who*, why not share it with *Doctor Who Insider*? Just send us a high-resolution photograph of your work, along with your name, full address and a few words about your creation telling us how and why you made it, to ***dwi@panini.co.uk***.

If your picture is chosen to be printed on these pages, you will receive a free *Doctor Who* gift. A copy of the *Doctor Who Magazine Special: 200 Golden Moments* will be on its way to everyone featured in this first issue.

I WAS... CHESSENE

(OF THE FRANZINE GRIG)

Jacqueline Pearce will be forever known for her performance as Supreme Commander Servalan in the BBC's other well-known sci-fi series, *Blake's 7*. But in 1985, a few years after *Blake's 7* had come to an end, Jacqueline guest-starred in *The Two Doctors*. Partly filmed on location in Spain, Jacqueline played opposite both the Sixth Doctor, played by Colin Baker, and the Second Doctor, Patrick Troughton.

Did you enjoy playing Chessene?

She was wonderful actually. I wasn't originally cast as Chessene. The actress who was playing her dropped out. I think she was ill. And [producer] John Nathan-Turner thought of me. So I was second choice and I inherited the first actress' costume and wig. The costume was made of rubber and did absolutely nothing for me. If I'd been first choice I'd have said, "But we're filming in Spain. In the, summer! Perhaps not rubber! Perhaps not plastic!" So I've got this plastic costume and a wig that made me look like Elizabeth Taylor playing Widow Twanky. Fortunately it got lost en route to Seville, which meant I couldn't work. So, I'd lost this dreadful wig which was wonderful and I spent a few days by the pool with Patrick Troughton, so I was very, very lucky. Every cloud...

Jacqueline as she appeared in *Blake's 7* as the ruthless Supreme Commander Servalan - and modelling her own hair.

Did you enjoy Patrick's company?

He was wonderful. A very benign man and a wise man and a thoughtful man. We just sat in great harmony, in silence by the pool and sometimes we would talk and had very interesting conversations which I wouldn't repeat because I think they were quite intimate. It's a treasured memory.

But you had to work eventually...

The wig never arrived so they had to send me – literally – to a barber in Seville. They gave me this wig that they'd found and he cut it into shape and dressed it for me. So, I really did go to a barber in Seville which I thought was incredibly camp and appropriate and wonderful. A bit of synchronicity there.

You had the unusual opportunity to work with two Doctors on the same production...

Yes. As well as Patrick Troughton, there was Colin Baker with whom I fell irrevocably in love – with his talent, his intelligence, his humor and his warmth. I absolutely adore Colin Baker. This was the first time I'd met him. I'd had such a crush on him when he was in [BBC TV series] *The Brothers*. Sex on legs! I just adore Colli, I think he's wonderful.

It must have been difficult working in the heat?

It was incredibly hot! I remember finishing one day and we got back into Seville and the temperature then, at about seven o'clock in the evening, was about 30 degrees. So that gives you some idea of what the day was like. I had to wear this wig and they'd glue it on and make me up and as soon as I stepped out into the sun, my sweat would make the wig go loose and it would pour down my face. It was a nightmare!

You must have been relieved to return to London for the studio recordings?

Oh, I loved Spain, don't get me wrong. I'm just not good in the heat. But in the evening we'd have lovely dinners and they were such a lovely company. It was a bit of a disappointment when we got back to England and we had to go back to our separate lives.

One of the best remembered moments from* The Two Doctors *is the scene where Chessene laps up spilt blood from the ground.

I loved it! The producers got very worried because it was so real. But, I'm an actress. That's what I struggle for in every shot. Reality! They wanted to tone it down because it was so real they thought it might frighten people. But how else could you play a scene like that? I think it was because there was a sexual element in it.

It was meant to be blood, but what was it really? Was it red wine?

I should be so lucky! It was probably something like tomato sauce. But for me, it was blood!

Did you enjoy the studio recordings for the story?

That delicious Frazer Hines [who played the Second Doctor's companion, Jamie] – he's one of the funniest people on the planet, and so quick. He was standing behind me with one of the other actors. My line to the actor I was playing opposite was, "I want you to make me a consort" which was a fellow Androgum, because I wanted to couple or reproduce or something. So, I said the line "I want you to make me a consort" and I heard Frazer Hines say, "I don't think we've got enough milk!"

DOCTOR WHO INSIDER

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